

THE
YEOMEN OF THE GUARD



1485 - 1885.

SECOND EDITION

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THE YEOMAN OF THE GUARD.

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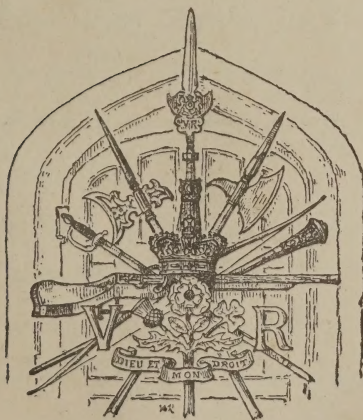
THEIR HISTORY FROM 1485 TO 1885.

AND A CONCISE ACCOUNT OF THE
TOWER WARDERS.

BY

THOMAS PRESTON,
FELLOW ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

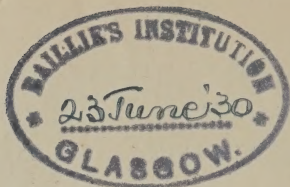
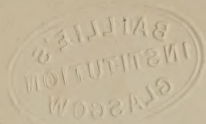
SECOND EDITION.



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WHITTAKER AND CO.,

2, WHITE HART STREET, PATERNOSTER SQUARE.



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1887

WESTMINSTER:

PRINTED BY NICHOLS AND SONS.

25, PARLIAMENT STREET.



ADVERTISEMENT TO SECOND EDITION.

The favourable reception so generously accorded to the *First Edition* of the HISTORY OF THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD has induced the Author to submit this the *Second Edition*, which he trusts may meet with continued approbation.

There has been no necessity for altering the letter-press as the History concludes with the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the formation of the Corps, but there are now added accurately-coloured illustrations of a Yeoman of the Guard, page 127, and a Tower Warder of to-day, page 141.

Last Copy

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MUSTER-ROLL

OF

Her Majesty's Royal Body-Guard

OF THE

YEOMEN OF THE GUARD.

30 October, 1885.

OFFICERS :

CAPTAIN	The Right Hon. Viscount BARRINGTON.
LIEUTENANT . . .	Lieut.-Col. Sir ARTHUR NEED, 14th Hussars.
ENSIGN	Col. the Hon. W. J. COLVILLE, Rifle Brigade.
CLERK OF THE CHEQUE AND ADJUTANT .	Lieut. Col. FRANCIS BARING, Scots Guards.
	Lieut.-Colonel C. D. PATERSON, 10th Foot.
EXONS	Captain F. B. MORLEY, 40th Regiment.
	Colonel HUMF, <i>C.B.</i> Grenadier Guards.
	Major G. R. ELLISON, 47th Regiment.

—o—

MESSENGERS :

William Black, late Colour-Serjeant Royal Engineers.
Edmund Everett, late Colour-Serjeant Coldstream Guards.

FIRST DIVISION.

Name.	Christian Name.	Corps Rank.	Army Rank.	Regiment.	Joined.
Dyne	Henry	S.M.	Serjeant	1st Regiment	1855
Smith	George Loy	Y. B. H.	Serjeant-Major	11th Hussars	1859
Travis	Christopher	Y. B. H.	Colour-Serjeant	7th Regiment	1860
McClelland	Robert	—	Serjeant	Royal Artillery	1869
Brambleby	John	—	Serjeant	Rifle Brigade	1869
Lester	Chr. John	—	Serjeant-Major	23rd Regiment	1874
Kirby	Thomas	—	Serjeant	Royal Artillery	1875
Harris	Joseph	—	Q.-M. Serjeant	34th Regiment	1877
Tresham	William	—	Colour-Serjeant	87th Regiment	1883
Clark	Thomas	—	T.-Serjt.-Major	17th Lancers	1884
Laverty	John	—	Serjeant-Major	77th Regiment	1885
Brophey	John	S. M.	Colour-Serjeant	63rd Regiment	1856
Noble	Thomas	Y. B. H.	Colour-Serjeant	6th Regiment	1860
Burke	John	Y. B. H.	Serjeant	10th Hussars	1860
Roe	William	—	Serjeant-Major	22nd Regiment	1865
Townsend	George	—	Colour-Serjeant	4th Regiment	1865
Tudor	John	—	Serjeant-Major	68th Regiment	1871
Humphries	John	—	Serjeant-Major	1st Regiment	1871
Andrews	Robert	—	Colour-Serjeant	23rd Regiment	1872
Eliget	Michael	—	Colour-Serjeant	13th Regiment	1878
Cullen	Edward	—	Serjeant-Major	38th Regiment	1878
Austin	Robert	—	Q.-M.-Serjeant	Coldstream Guards	1881
Spence	Henry	—	Hosp.-Corp.-Maj.	Royal Horse Guards	1882

SECOND DIVISION.

Name.	Christian Name.	Corps Rank.	Army Rank.	Regiment.	Joined.
Shields	Alexander	S. M.	T.-Serjt.-Major	6th Dragoons	1855
Tomkinson	Thomas	Y. B. G.	Trumpet-Major	7th Hussars	1860
Walker	Charles	—	Colour-Serjeant	55th Regiment	1864
V.C. Rush	David	—	Serjeant-Major	9th Lancers	1867
Donelan	James	—	Serjeant-Major	44th Regiment	1872
Hawksford	James	—	Serjeant-Instr.	Rifle Brigade	1873
Newcombe	William	—	Batt.-Serjt.-Maj.	Royal Horse Artillery	1876
Meadows	Frederick	—	Q.-M.-Serjeant	14th Hussars	1877
McNamara	John	—	Serjeant	6th Dragoons	1878
McGarritty	James	—	Master-Gunner	Royal Artillery	1879
Douglass	George	—	Serjeant-Major	14th Foot	1885
Martin	Samuel	S. M.	Colour-Serjeant	Royal Artillery	1856
Hamilton	Peter	—	Serjeant-Major	Royal Artillery	1864
Nugent	Patrick	—	T.-Serjt.-Major	9th Lancers	1866
Elliott	Robert	—	Serjeant-Major	Military Train	1869
Rushent	Thomas	—	Serjeant	Grenadier Guards	1877
Canny	Nicholas	—	Colour-Serjeant	6th Regiment	1878
Pitts	John	—	Colour-Serjeant	14th Regiment	1878
Page	Joseph	—	Serjeant-Major	Scots Guards	1878
Randoll	Henry	—	Colour-Serjeant	2nd Regiment	1878
Chamberlain	Daniel	—	Colour-Serjeant	23rd Regiment	1879
O'Brien	William	—	Serjeant-Major	1st Batt. 5th Regt.	1881
Elvin	William	—	Batt.-Serjt.-Maj.	Royal Artillery	1883

THIRD DIVISION.

Name.	Christian Name.	Corps Rank.	Army Rank.	Regiment.	Joined.
Wilson	John	S. M.	Serjeant-Major	40th Regiment	1854
Pearse	Charles	Y. B. H.	T.-Serjt.-Major	9th Lancers	1858
Holmes	William	—	T.-Serjt.-Major	12th Lancers	1868
Hurley	Patrick	—	Colour-Serjeant	41st Regiment	1871
Kelly	John	—	Q.-M.-Serjeant	Military Train	1871
Aires	Charles	—	Serjeant-Major	31st Regiment	1872
Leonard	Patrick	—	Serjeant	53rd Regiment	1877
Cawdron	Thomas	—	Serjeant-Major	60th Rifles	1881
Murray	George	—	Pay-Serjeant	Royal Marines	1882
Austin	W. H.	—	Serjeant-Major	85th Foot	1885
Morson	William	—	Serjeant-Major	Army Service Corps	1885
Austin	Thomas	S. M.	Colour-Serjeant	Coldstream Guards	1855
Connor	James	Y. B. H.	T.-Serjt.-Major	11th Hussars	1860
Tarbat	Alexander	—	T.-Serjt.-Major	14th Hussars	1863
Rule	Arthur	—	Serjeant-Major	20th Regiment	1866
Plant	John	—	Serjeant	17th Regiment	1866
Baker	Daniel	—	Colour-Serjeant	79th Regiment	1869
Ferguson	Robert	—	Serjeant	4th Hussars	1871
Beer	James	—	Serjeant-Major	Coldstream Guards	1878
Rice	Henry D.	—	Serjeant-Major	20th Regiment	1880
Brewster	William	—	Master Gunner	Royal Artillery	1882
Harris	William	—	Serjeant-Major	46th Regiment	1882
Whitehead	James	—	Serjeant	5th Regiment	1884

FOURTH DIVISION.

Name.	Christian Name.	Corps Rank.	Army Rank.	Regiment.	Joined.
Slee	William	S. M.	Colour-Serjeant	70th Regiment	1851
Scott	John	—	Serjeant-Major	38th Regiment	1868
Burke	Thomas Henry	—	Musk.-Instructor	49th Regiment	1870
Thomson	James	—	Q.-M.-Serjeant	Army Hospital Corps	1871
Hughes	Thomas	—	Colour-Serjeant	13th Regiment	1871
Meek	David	—	Serjeant-Major	75th Regiment	1874
Goddard	William	—	Drum-Major	Grenadier Guards	1880
Ford	George	—	Serjeant-Major	Scots Guards	1882
Newton	Edwin	—	Master-Gunner	Royal Artillery	1882
Eccles	William	—	T.-Serjt-Major	13th Hussars	1882
Hanson	Robert	—	Serjeant-Major	Royal Engineers	1884
Johnson	Henry	—	Serjeant-Major	29th Regiment	1884
Breese	John	S. M.	Serjeant	11th Hussars	1855
Handley	William	Y. B. G.	Serjeant-Major	23rd Regiment	1859
Brownlow	Edward	—	Colour-Serjeant	Coldstream Guards	1862
Mason	Daniel	—	Serjeant	12th Lancers	1864
Quay	John	—	Serjeant	60th Rifles	1866
Cleary	William	—	Bandmr.-Serjt.	7th Regiment	1873
Willoughby	W. H.	—	Colour-Serjeant	Royal Marines	1873
Feldwick	Job	—	Serjeant-Major	1st Dragoons	1873
Mansfield	Joseph	—	Batt.-Serjt.-Maj.	Royal Artillery	1879
W. C. Kells	Robert	—	Trumpet-Major	19th Hussars	1880
Johnson	John	—	Colour-Serjeant	60th Rifles	1882

SUPERANNUATED :

Hards, Gabriel, Civilian, purchased appointment, 1830.
 Haythorne, John, Civilian, purchased appointment, 1834.
 Cooney, Patrick, Serjeant, Rifle Brigade, joined 1851.
 Lee, William, Serjeant, 16th Lancers, joined 1856.

EXEMPT FROM DUTY :

Scarfe, James, Serjeant, 17th Lancers, joined 1855.
 Rossell, Henry, Colour-Serjeant, Grenadier Guards, joined 1858.

Wardrobe Keeper, George Blandford, late Scots Greys.

In the column showing Rank in Corps the letters Y. B. G. signify Yeoman Bed Goer, Y. B. H. Yeoman Bed Hanger, and S. M. Serjeant-Major.



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VISCOUNT GRANDISON,
CAPTAIN OF THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD,
1685.

CAPTAINS
OF THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD,
1485 TO 1885.

- 1485. Earl of Oxford.
- 1488. Sir Charles Somerset (afterwards Earl of Worcester).
- 1513. Sir John Gage.
- 1514. Sir Henry Guildford.
- 1520. Sir Henry Marney (afterwards Lord Marney).
- 1523. Sir William Kingston.
- 1536. Sir Anthony Wingfield.
- 1550. Sir Thomas d'Arcy (afterwards Lord d'Arcy).
- 1553. Sir Henry Jerningham.
- 1555. Sir Henry Bedingfield.
- 1558. Sir Edward Rogers.
- 1558. Sir Edward St. Loe.
- 1569. Sir Francis Knowlys.
- 1578. Sir Christopher Hatton.
- 1587. Sir Henry Goodere.
- 1592. John Best (Champion of England).
- 1597. Sir Walter Raleigh.
- 1603. Sir Thomas Erskine (afterwards Earl of Killie).
- 1617. Sir Henry Rich (afterwards Earl of Holland).
- 1625. The Earl of Cleveland.
- 1630. Sir Christopher Musgrove.
- 1632. The Earl of Kinnoul.
- 1635. Earl Morton.
- 1660. Earl of Norwich.
- 1660. Viscount Grandison.
- 1670. Earl of Manchester.
- 1685. Viscount Grandison.
- 1702. Marquis of Hartington.
- 1707. Viscount Townshend.
- 1714. Henry Lord Paget (afterwards Earl of Uxbridge).
- 1715. The Earl of Derby.
- 1723. Lord Stanhope (afterwards Earl of Chesterfield).

1725. The Earl of Leicester
 1731. Earl of Ashburnham.
 1733. Earl of Tankerville.
 1737. Duke of Manchester.
 1739. The Earl of Essex.
 1743. Lord Berkeley of Stratton.
 1746. Viscount Torrington.
 1747. Viscount Falmouth.
 1782. Duke of Dorset.
 1783 (April). Earl of Cholmondeley.
 1783 (December). Earl of Aylesford.
 1804. Lord Pelham.
 1804. Earl of Macclesfield.
 1830. Marquis Clanricarde.
 1834, 17 July. Earl of Gosford.
 1835, 5 Jan. Earl of Courtown.
 1835, 23 April. Earl of Gosford.
 1835, 5 Aug. Earl of Ilchester.
 1841, 5 July. Earl of Surrey.
 1841, 8 Sept. Marquis of Lothian.
 1841, 19 Nov. Earl of Beverley.
 1846, 24 July. Viscount Falkland.
 1848, 11 Feb. Marquis of Donegal.
 1852, 27 Feb. Lord de Ros.
 1852, 30 Dec. Viscount Sydney.
 1858, 17 Mar. Lord de Ros.
 1859, 28 June. Earl of Ducie.
 1866, 10 July. Earl of Cadogan.
 1868, 22 Dec. Duke of St. Albans.
 1874, 2 Mar. Lord Skelmersdale.
 1880, 3 May. Lord Monson.
 1885, 29 June. Viscount Barrington.





ON GUARD AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE.



INTRODUCTION.

HERE are very few institutions in this country which can boast of a history of four centuries, but the Yeomen of the Guard can now do so, for this famous Body Guard of the Sovereign was formed by Henry VII., and made its first appearance in public at His Majesty's coronation on the 30th of October, 1485. Since that remote time there has been no royal pageant or ceremonial in which the Yeomen of the Guard have not taken a more or less conspicuous part. Their portly appearance, picturesque costume and ancient weapons, have made them famous, but it is more than a century since any attempt was made to write a history of the Corps. Then Samuel Pegge, who was sometime a Groom of the Royal Chamber, wrote an extremely interesting paper on the subject for the Society of Antiquaries, of which he was a Fellow. Taking Pegge's paper as a starting-point, the compiler of the following pages, with the courteous assistance of Lord Lathom, a past Captain of the Guard, and now the Lord Chamberlain; Lord Barrington, the present Captain; Lieut.-General Milman, Major of the Tower; Lieutenant-Colonel Baring, the Clerk of the Cheque; Sir Albert Woods, Garter, and other gentlemen, has gone over the same ground and discovered many interesting incidents in documents which a century ago were not known to

be in existence or could not be found. Careful search has also been made in several directions not traversed by Pegge, and some original documents from the archives of the Lord Chamberlain's office have furnished what has proved to be most entertaining reading. These old customs, set before us in such a charming way, give an endless variety of interesting particulars, and convey to us a better idea of the old-time doings than would be obtainable without them, and this is the author's excuse for occasionally wandering somewhat from the subject-matter of this history.

The ceremonies described are only given once as examples to illustrate the duties of the Guard; and, as a rule, only the part of the pageant or ceremonial in which the Corps itself or some of its members figure is given.

The history, deficient as it is, will be found to contain particulars of the formation of the Corps, its constitution, its strength in each successive reign, its weapons, uniform, duties, and privileges. Also a complete list of all its several Captains, with biographical notices of its prominent members.

There are very few memorials of the old Guard now left. The present Order Book only goes back to the beginning of the present century, and it is conjectured that the earlier books and other properties belonging to the Guard were destroyed in the fire which did so much damage to St. James's Palace in the year 1809. This loss has rendered necessary a search through the Council Registers, and it will no doubt surprise many readers of the extracts gleaned therefrom to find that the Lords of the Privy Council, for so many years and as late as the reign of George III., had so much to do with the arrangements of the Royal Household.

The illustrations have been made expressly for this history, and have been taken either from originals kindly placed at the disposal of the compiler, or from well-authenticated copies where originals were inaccessible. A glance at the

successive uniforms of 1520, 1585, 1685, 1785, and 1885, shows that the supposition that the present costume is the same as that worn in the time of Henry VIII. is erroneous.

In the chapter relating to the Tower Warders the origin of a recent scare concerning a supposed change of uniform is dealt with, and the groundlessness of the alarm made clear.

In this Introduction several subjects will be dealt with which could not conveniently be allotted as belonging exclusively to any particular reign, and the subject of the Officers has a chapter to itself.

YEOMEN.

There is some uncertainty as to the derivation and precise meaning of the word Yeoman, and there can be no doubt that it has undergone some changes of signification since its introduction into the language.

Dr. Johnson only gives a speculative derivation of the word in his dictionary, and there seems to be considerable doubt as to its birthplace. From many examples of its use it would seem to have designated a servant of the higher grade, as we hear of the Yeoman of the Guard, Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, Yeoman of the Chamber, Yeoman of the Pantry, Yeoman of the Robes, Yeoman of the Crown, Yeoman of the Mouth, and so forth.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. xxix. p. 408, is the following instructive information:—

“The title Yeoman is generally in no esteem, because its worth is not known. A yeoman that is authentically such is by his title on a level with an esquire. * * * The title yeoman is of military origin, as well as that of esquire and other titles of honour. Esquires were so called because in combat they carried for defence an acu or shield; and *yeomen* were so styled because, besides the weapons fit for

close engagement, they fought with arrows and the bow, which was made of yew; a tree that hath more repelling force and elasticity than any other.

“After the Conquest, the name of *yeomen*, as to their original office in war, was changed to that of *archers*. Yeomen of the Crown had formerly considerable grants bestowed on them. In the fifth century (fifteenth?) John Forde, yeoman of the crowne, had the moytie of all rents of the town and hundred of Shaftesbury; and Nicholas Wortley, yeoman of the chambre, was made baillieffe of the lordships of Scaresdale and Chesterfield, within the county of Derby; all which prove that the title of yeoman was accounted honourable, not only in remote antiquity but in later ages.

“Yeomen, at least those that frequent palaces, should have their education in some academy, college, or university, in the army or at court, or a private education that would be equivalent. Then our Latin writers would be no longer so grossly mistaken as to their notion in this respect. In Littleton’s Dictionary, and I believe in all our Latin dictionaries, yeomanry is Latinised *plebs*; and yeoman, *rusticus*, *paganus*, *colonus*. The expressions of ‘Yeomen of the Crown,’ ‘Yeomen of the Chamber,’ ‘Yeomen of the Guard,’ ‘Yeoman Usher,’ show the impropriety of this translation, for thereby it is plain that yeomen originally frequented courts and followed the profession of arms. Yeomen of the Crown were so called, either because they were obliged to attend the King’s person at court and in the field, or because they held lands from the crown, or both.”

Dr. Johnson thought that Yeoman in one sense was a ceremonious title given to soldiers, and quotes Spencer—

Tall *Yeomen* seemed they, and of great might,
And were arranged ready still for fight.

Shakespeare puts the word into the mouth of Henry V.—

You, good *Yeomen*,
Whose limbs were made in England, show us here
The mettle of your pasture.

Spencer wrote about “A jolly yeoman, marshall of the hall, whose name was Appetite.” So that the beef-eating propensities of the yeomen must have been patent as early as Spencer’s time.

Harrison, in his introduction to Holinshed’s *History of Great Britain*, gives the following definition of a Yeoman, as the title was understood about half a century after the formation of the Corps of the Yeomen of the Guard. It gives us an insight into the “manner of men” who were then considered to be desirable protectors of the person of the Sovereign:—

“This sort of people have a certaine preheminance, and more estimation than labourers and the common sort of artificers, and those commonlie live wealthilie, keepe good houses, and travell to get riches. They are also for the most part farmers to gentlemen, or at the leastwise artificers, and with grazing, frequenting of markets, and keeping of servants (not idle servants as the gentlemen doo, but such as get both their own and part of their master’s living), do come to great welth, that manie of them are able and doo buie the lands of unthrifitie gentlemen, and often setting their sonnes to the Schooles, to the Universities, and to the Inns of Court; or, otherwise leaving them sufficient lands whereupon they may live without labour, doo make them by those means to become gentlemen.

“These were they that in times past made all France afraid, and albeit they be not called Master, as gentlemen are; or Sir, as to Knights appertaineth but onlie John and Thomas, etc.; yet have they beene found to have doone verie

good service : and the Kings of England in foughten battles were woont to remaine among them (who were their foot-men) as the French Kings did amongst their horsemen ; the Prince thereby showing where his cheefe strength did consist."

OFFICERS.

THE CAPTAIN.

The Captaincy of the Royal Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard has always been regarded as an honourable post to fill, and for nearly 200 years the service was purely honorary, the only recognition on the part of the Sovereign being the occasional present of "a gown." The Household Books of James I. show that this was the custom during the reign of that monarch, and the cost of the gown given to the Captain was £14. But it often happened that the Captain of the Guard held some salaried office in the Household. Sir Walter Raleigh was, at the same time, Captain of the Guard and Gentleman of the Chamber ; but the post of Vice-Chamberlain appears to have been the office most frequently associated with the Captaincy. A peer of the realm has filled the office of Captain for many generations, indeed (as may be seen by the Table of Officers) with only one exception since the appointment of Sir Henry Rich in 1617.

The precedency of the Captain in State processions was considered and decided as recently as 1843. On the 11th of April in that year an order states that the place of the Captain is to be on one side of Gold Stick, the other side being occupied by the Captain of the Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms. This was the place assigned to these officers at the coronation of James II., and, with but one or two exceptions, it has been their position in all State processions since that time.



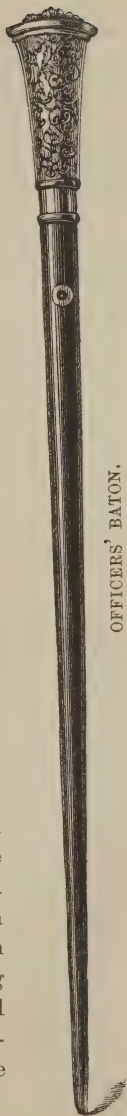
VISCOUNT BARRINGTON,
CAPTAIN OF THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD,

1885.

The sketch facing page 18 (with apologies to Lord Barrington for the attempt at a portrait) represents the uniform worn by the Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign on Inspection Parades. On State occasions, however, they carry in their right hands an ebony "baton," the Captain's being distinguished by a richly-chased gold top and a gold lace knot and acorn. This emblem of office is presented by the Sovereign to the Captain on his appointment. The colour of the uniform-coat is scarlet, trimmed with gold lace, and the trousers are a dark blue, with gold lace stripes at the side. The cord of the aiguillettes is looped on to the top dexter button. There has been some uncertainty as to the proper position of the bullion sash-tassels. In the sketch they are placed before the sword-hilt as they have been generally worn; but recent authorities say the bullion should be behind the sword. There is very little to admire in the officers' uniform.

By virtue of his office the Captain of the Guard is usually made a Privy Councillor. He goes out of office with the Ministry. Lord Barrington, the present Captain, was appointed in succession to Lord Monson on 29th June, 1885.

The salary is £1,200 per annum, and in the reign of William III. Lord Grandison was granted a pension of £1,000 a year. At one time there were also some valuable privileges connected with the office; but the only ancient custom which survives is the annual present of venison from the Royal Forests. The order respecting this privilege states that the Captain is entitled annually to two bucks and two does; and applications for the warrants for the same are to be



OFFICERS' BATON.

made at the office of Her Majesty's Woods and Forests, Whitehall, for the bucks about the middle of the month of July, the buck season ending 25th September; for the does at the end of the month of October, the doe season ending the 17th January. The fees payable at the office for the warrants are for the bucks £1 6s., and for the does 13s.

THE LIEUTENANT.

The second officer is the Lieutenant. He must have been a colonel or lieutenant-colonel in the army or marines or in the Indian army. At the time of the abolition of sale and purchase of commissions the value of the Lieutenant's commission was £8,000; the salary is £500 a year. The office dates back to the year 1668, and the first of the Lieutenants was the Hon. Thomas Howard, second son of the Earl of Suffolk. The present Lieutenant, Lieut.-Colonel Sir Arthur Need, was appointed 11th February, 1870.

THE ENSIGN.

The third officer—the Ensign—was added by Charles II., and it may fairly be assumed that when appointed he had to do an ensign's duty, namely, to carry the Banner or Standard of the Corps. Diligent search has more than once been made for this Standard, but it is not forthcoming.

Thom, in his *Book of the Court*, when speaking of the duties of the Ensign of the Guard, says:—"But, though such an appointment was then (1668) made and has continued ever since, there does not exist the smallest evidence that the Corps ever possessed either Banner or Standard." The late learned antiquary could not, at the time he wrote this, have seen the Order Book of the Guard at St. James's Palace; for one of the first entries therein is as follows:—

"In consequence of the death of Mr. Jno. Glover, late Secretary of the Earl of Macclesfield, his lordship ordered

that the Standard, Books, &c., belonging to the Corps and kept by him be now given up, and that they be considered in future the property of the Corps, and kept as such by the Secretary for the time being."

The Earl of Macclesfield was appointed Captain in 1804, and the great fire in St. James's Palace occurred 21st January, 1809; it is reasonable, therefore, to suppose that the Standard was amongst the property destroyed.

According to Chamberlayne's *Angliæ Notitia* for 1672 the Standard of the Guard was "a Cross of St. George and likewise four bends"; but the colours of the field and the charge are not given.

By the regulations now in force the Ensign before appointment must have held a commission as a lieutenant-colonel or major in the army or marines or in the Indian army. The salary is £300 a year. The present Ensign is Colonel the Hon. W. J. Colville, who has held the appointment since 11th February, 1870.

THE CLERK OF THE CHEQUE.

The officer next in rank is the Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant. This is the oldest paid officer in the Corps and the post is extremely ancient. Long before the formation of the Guard the office of Clerk of the Cheque was usual in the royal households and also in the establishments of the highest of the nobility. His duty was to keep the checkroll or "checker-roll," which was a book containing the names of the household servants. In an old dictionary he is described as "an officer who has the check and controlment of the Yeomen of the Guard and all the Ushers belonging to the Royal Family." He never was the paymaster of the Corps and had nothing to do with "cheques" in the modern meaning of that word. He was and is to all intents and purposes the Adjutant and Secretary of the Guard, residing

in the Palace, keeping the Order Book, attending all parades, and preparing the quarterly statements. It was customary at coronations to knight the Clerk of the Cheque. Sir Francis Clarke, who filled the office in 1712, was knighted on the coronation of George I. on 20th October, 1714. Several subsequent Clerks of the Cheque were also similarly honoured, but Coles Child, who held the appointment in the reigns of George III. and George IV., was several times offered the distinction, but, on account of his retiring habits, he could not be prevailed upon to accept it.

The silver-topped ebony baton was not carried by the Clerk of the Cheque till 1787, when one was given to Francis Barker, Esquire, one of the Exons, on his promotion, by order dated 5th July, 1787.

The present regulations require that before appointment the Clerk of the Cheque must have held a commission as a lieutenant-colonel or major in the regular army or in the marines or Indian army.

Till Charles II. re-organised the Guard in 1660, the salary of the Clerk of the Cheque was 2s. 6d. per day, with fees, residence, and table-money; but the new regulations raised it to £150 per annum.

Lieut.-Colonel Francis Baring, who now fills the post, was promoted from an Exoncy on 4th December, 1884.

THE EXONS.

The next officers in rank are the four Exons. The first mention of Exon is in the ceremony of *All Night*, which is fully described in the chapter relating to Charles II. They were added to the staff of officers in 1668, just about the time when Marsham's account of *All Night* was written. The derivation and meaning of the word Exon has been and is a puzzle to many; but it is undoubtedly the French pronunciation of the word *exempt*. An exempt was

an officer in the old French Garde du Corps. "Exempts des Gardes du Corps" are described in a military dictionary as "Exons belonging to the Body Guards." There was in France till quite recently an officer of police called "Un Exempt [exon] de Police." When Charles II. formed his Horse Guards he created a commissioned officer who was styled indiscriminately the exempt or the exon, and in each of the two troops this officer ranked with the captain. There is a further confusion connected with the title of exon, for in his commission he is styled *corporal*. But it appears that in Elizabeth's reign "corporal" was a commissioned officer, and the term was synonymous with captain. Down to the time of the coronation of George III., which took place on 22nd September, 1761, corporal was only another word for exon, as may be seen on referring to the official programme of the coronation, wherein mention is made of "the *Corporals* or Exons of the Yeomen of the Guard." The exempt in the French Garde du Corps always had charge of the Night Watch, and the Exon in the English Body Guard was especially appointed for that service.

Curiously enough the word Exempt is also used in the orders of the Yeomen of the Guard with its English meaning. On the present Muster Roll there are still two "Exempts," that is, men who are exempt or excused from duty; and the term "Exempt Yeoman" is used in the same sense in an order dated 12th March, 1790.

The Exon's duty as defined in 1881 was to occupy the Exon's quarters at St. James's Palace, to attend the calling of "the Bill" at mid-day at the Yeomen of the Guards' Office, and to ascertain from the Lord Chamberlain's Department what other orders there might be for the day.

The present rules require that a candidate for the appointment of Exon must have been a captain in the army or marines or Indian army. The value of an Exon's commission in 1861 was £3,500.

The uniform is similar to that of the other officers, except that the Exons do not wear the aiguillettes.

The present senior Exon is Honorary Lieut.-Colonel C. D. Patterson, whose appointment dates from 12th February, 1862. The next is Captain F. Brockman Morley, 23rd January, 1869; then Colonel Henry Hume, C.B., 23rd November, 1873; and Major R. G. Ellison, 4th December, 1884.

KNIGHTHOODS.

It was customary for an officer of the Corps, other than the Clerk of the Cheque, to be knighted on the occasion of a coronation; and the following list includes all who have been so honoured during the half century now last past.

NAME.	RANK IN CORPS.	DATE.
Henry Cipriani	Senior Exon	13 Sept. 1831
Thomas Horsley Curteis	Senior Exon	27 June, 1833
George Houlton	Ensign	20 June, 1838
Samuel Hancock	Senior Exon	12 May, 1841
Philip Lee	Lieutenant	13 Mar. 1843
William Bellairs	Senior Exon	17 May, 1848
Thomas Seymour Sadler	Senior Exon	28 Feb. 1849
Captain J. Kincaid	Senior Exon	30 June, 1852
Major-General Benjamin Trevell Phillips	Lieutenant	18 Feb. 1858
Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Cooke	Lieutenant	11 Dec. 1867
Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Need	Lieutenant	25 Feb. 1881

It was publicly announced in 1858 that knighthood was not to be looked upon by the officers of the Corps as a right, and this intimation was repeated in February, 1881.

The following order relates to the abolition of purchase of officers' commissions, and it gives some directions as to filling future vacancies from the date of the order:—

“ Lord Chamberlain’s Office, 24th June, 1861.

“ MY LORD,—I am commanded by the Queen to inform you that it is Her Majesty’s pleasure that the purchase of the officers’ commissions in the Corps of the Yeomen of the Guard should cease at the earliest possible moment, and that it is ordered by Her Majesty that the future vacancies in the Corps should be filled up by officers of the army of long and good service, to be selected from a list kept at the Horse Guards by the General Commanding-in-Chief, the recommendation being made to Her Majesty in each case, as now, by the Captain of the Corps.

“ Any of the officers who acquired their commissions by purchase, and are desirous of retiring from the Corps, upon communicating with the Captain, will receive,—the Lieutenant, £8,000, the three Exons £3,500 each (that being the regulation price), for the sale of their commissions, from the Secretary of State for War, and a successor will be appointed to the vacancy, who, however, it must be clearly understood, will not be allowed to sell his commission.

“ The *Lieutenant* in future to be appointed must have been a colonel or lieutenant-colonel in the army or marines or in the Indian army.

“ The *Ensign* and the *Clerk of the Cheque*, a lieutenant-colonel or major in the army or marines or in the Indian army.

“ The *Exons*, captains in the army or marines or in the Indian army, according to the present regulations of the Corps.

“ It is further Her Majesty’s pleasure that no officers should be appointed to the Corps above the age of fifty.

“ Whenever an Exon becomes in the opinion of the Captain permanently incapacitated to perform the duties of the appointment, he will be required to resign it, or half his salary will be paid to a substitute, selected as already described, and who will succeed to the next vacancy in the Corps.

“ This order is not to be retrospective, or to apply to those officers of the army now in the Corps who have been appointed on the recommendation of the General Commanding-in-Chief.

“ It is to be clearly understood that all officers who may be appointed for the future under the above regulations will be, as heretofore, entirely under the command of the Captain of the Corps.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) “ SYDNEY.”

“ To the Captain of Her Majesty’s Corps
of Yeomen of the Guard.”

For many years previous to 1883 there was a Deputy Clerk of the Cheque who acted as Secretary to the Adjutant. The last deputy was Mr. Davis, who had been in the Corps sixty-four years when he died. A re-arrangement of the office duties has done away with the necessity for appointing a successor to Mr. Davis. Her Majesty has graciously granted his widow an annuity of £40 a-year.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

The Messengers, of whom there are now two, rank first amongst the non-commissioned officers of the Guard, and receive £75 per annum. They, like the rest of the Yeomen, are army pensioners, and are at liberty to employ their spare time in any way consistent with their duties. The serjeant-majors rank next. They receive £60 per annum. Besides their badge of four chevrons and a crown on the right arm, they may be distinguished by their batons, which they carry instead of the partizan. Ranking next the serjeants as non-commissioned officers are the Y. B. G.’s—the Yeomen Bed Goers, concerning whose peculiar duties there are several examples in the following pages. Then come the six men distinguished by the initials Y. B. H. These are the Yeomen

Bed Hangers, and it was their special employment to hang the arras and tapestry in the bed-chamber of the sovereign. George III. took his Yeomen Bed Goers and Yeomen Bed Hangers with him when he went to Hanover in 1783. The only other official is the Wardrobe Keeper, who finds plenty to do as custodian of the uniforms and arms at St. James's Palace, and in superintending their removal to Windsor and other places to which the Guard may be sent. He is not a Yeoman of the Guard.

THE VICTORIA CROSS.

Since the first admission of army non-commissioned officers to the ranks of the Corps, fifty years ago, there have been five of them entered on the roll who wore or wear on their breasts the Victoria Cross. They are—

V.C. Stephen Garvin, Serjeant-Major 64th Foot. Died 1874.

V.C. David Spence, 9th Lancers. Died 1877.

V.C. Daniel Cambridge, Gunner R.A. Died 1882.

V.C. David Rush, Serjeant-Major 9th Lancers. Joined 1867.

V.C. Robert Kells, Trumpet-Major 19th Hussars. Joined 1880.

Another Yeoman of the Guard has been rendered somewhat famous through having sat as a model for the "Beef-eater," which was one of the gems at the exhibition of the Royal Academy about ten years ago. This was Serjeant-Major John Charles Montague, formerly Serjeant in the 16th Lancers. He died 16th May, 1878. By the kind permission of Sir John E. Millais I am able to give a copy of the picture.

The strength of the Yeomen Guard is now 100; they receive a salary of £50 in addition to their army pension.

THE BEEF-EATERS.

Regarding the sobriquet of "Beef-eater," which has long been the popular name of the Yeomen Guard, it does not seem to be necessary to go very deeply into the question of the origin of it. There is a story attributed to Fuller the historian, which will be found in the chapter relating to Henry VIII., which gives a very probable origin, but there are other not less likely derivations. When we remember that the Corps itself was copied from a similar Guard which attended the French King, who were nicknamed the *Becs du Corbin*, from a fancied resemblance of the hooks of their halberds to the beak of a crow, why should not the English Guard have got their sobriquet from the resemblance of their partizans to the bill or beak of the bird called the *Beef-eater*? Buffon describes the beak of this bird as a "strong thick bill, with which it pecks through the hides of oxen." This derivation may be far-fetched, but it should be remembered that the English yeomen were often referred to as bill-men, because they carried a weapon with a hook resembling the beak or bill of a bird. Doubtful the derivation may be, but it seems to be quite as probable as the generally accepted one of the name being derived from *buffetier*, inasmuch as the Yeomen never have had charge of the buffets at the Royal banquets.

THE PRESENT CORPS.

Although the men who now form this famous Guard are not Yeomen in the original sense of the word, they are, it must be admitted, better men for the Body Guard of the Sovereign than those so employed in the last century. What could be a better recommendation for a place in such a corps than the fact that the applicant had spent the best years of his life in the service of his country; and that he had won the

medals on his breast for bravery in face of the enemy or for long service? These medals, which all the Guard wear, show that they have done "yeomen's service" for the Crown already; and if there be more of such service to be done, though of a less arduous and dangerous kind, surely none could do it better than brave soldiers such as those who now comprise the Corps.

It will be well to remember that these grand Yeomen or their predecessors have taken part in and added to the brightness and picturesqueness of every Royal pageant or State ceremonial that England has seen during the past four centuries, and they have done this and at the same time guarded their Sovereign without once bringing discredit to their Corps. On the contrary, there is evidence enough in these pages to show that many of them lived the lives of good servants and loyal citizens, and died leaving behind them substantial proofs of their benevolent dispositions.

All honour, then, to the grand old Guard on this the four hundredth anniversary of its formation. May it continue to be recruited from soldiers such as those who now so nobly fill its ranks, and, may it last for ever!

30th October, 1885.

T. P.



HENRY VII.

1485 TO 1509.

THE FORMATION OF THE GUARD.



DREAD of personal violence undoubtedly prompted Henry VII. to form a Body Guard who would be available to protect him day and night. He had on the 22nd of August, 1485, won the Crown of England at the battle of Bosworth, and there is evidence in his Ordinances and in the Acts of Parliament which were passed as soon as he came to the throne that both the King and his Council greatly feared treachery. Therefore by the day of his coronation—the 30th of October, 1485—he had formed his Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard, and they made their first appearance at the coronation.

Hall says:—"Wherefore for the safeguard and preservation of his own body he constituted and ordained a certain number, as well of good archers as of divers other persons, being hardy, strong, and of agility, to give daily attendance on his person, whom he named Yeomen of his Garde, which precedent men thought that he learned of the French King when he was in France, for men remember not any King of England before that time which used such a furniture of daily soldiers."

Bacon, in his life of Henry VII., says that he instituted,

for the security of his person, a band of fifty archers under a captain to attend him, by the name of Yeomen of his Guard.

It is thought that Henry followed the precedent of Louis XI., King of France, who ten years previously had established himself a Grand Guard of 100 knights and 200 attendants. The latter were armed as archers when in the battlefield, but at State ceremonials they carried a halberd of a peculiar shape, the hook at the back resembling the beak of a crow.

STATE VISIT TO YORK.

Henry lost no time in letting his subjects see that he was well guarded. In March, 1486, he paid a State visit to York, and went by way of Waltham, Cambridge, Huntington, to Lincoln, where he kept the Feast of Easter, and on Holy Thursday he washed the feet of twenty-nine poor men and gave them alms. The number corresponded to the years of his age. The King then attended service "in the Cathedral Church and in no Private Chapel, the principallest residents there being present did divine observance."

The next resting-place was Nottingham, and thence he journeyed onward to York. On the road the King was met by the Earl of Northumberland with a grand retinue. At Pomfret the King was accompanied by "great Noblesse, Esquires, Gentilmen and Yeomen in defensible array; for in that tyme ther wer certayne rebells about Rypon and Midlem, which understanding the King's might and were approaching, within two dayes disperse." Leland (from whose account of Henry's progress these extracts are made) goes on to say that "at Tadcastell the King, richly besene in a gowne of cloth of gold, furred with ermine, take his courser; his henchmen and followers, also in goldsmythe's work, were richly besene." The Mayor of York met the

cavalcade three miles outside the city, and there "was ordayned a pajaunt." There was also another "again at hider ende of House Brigge another garnyshed with shippes," &c. The Earl of Oxford, who was the first Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, is frequently mentioned as taking an active part in the proceedings. Diligent but unsuccessful search has been made for a portrait of the First Captain, and the Curator of the National Portrait Gallery says that there is no known portrait of this Earl of Oxford.

QUARRELS AMONGST THE KING'S SERVANTS.

One of the earliest Acts of Parliament issued in the English language is 3 Henry VII. cap. 14, and it is worth calling attention to as it relates to the origin of the Body Guard. A slight alteration from the original spelling has been found necessary to make the extract intelligible. It runs as follows :—

"For somoch as by quarelles, made to suche as hath been in greate auctorite office and of Councell with Kynge of this roialme, hath ensued the Destruccion of Kynge and the neer undoying of this Realme, so as yt hath appeared evedently when compassyng of the deth of such as were of the Kynge's true subjiecttis was hadd, the destruction of the prynce was ymagyned thereby; and for the most part yt hath growen and ben occasioned by envy and malice of the King's owne housold servantes, as nowe late lyke thyng was lykely to have ensued. * * *" It is then enacted that the Steward, &c., of the King's Household may enquire, by Twelve Persons of the Checque Roll, of Conspiracies, &c., by the King's Servants to murder the King or his Counsellors or Great Officers.

There had evidently been something amiss in the Royal Household, for we find amongst the Acts of Parliament for the fourth year of the King (chapter 7) an enactment to

the effect that all Letters Patent made to Yeomen of the Crown and Grooms of the King's Chamber should be void if there were any lack in their attendance. Sir William Stanley, Knight, was Lord Chamberlain to Henry VII. when the Corps of the Yeomen of the Guard was formed, but he was unfortunate enough to offend the King and was condemned to the block in 1495. But the best evidence of the extraordinary care taken against treachery is to be found in the following amusing extract from the Household Ordinances as to the manner of making the King's bed.

MAKING THE KING'S BED.

After bringing in "the stuff for the bed—Then the Esquire or Gentleman Usher shall command them what they shall do. So, first, one of them to fetch the straw with a dagger or otherwise (that there be no untruth therein), and then the Yeoman to take the straw and lay it plain and draw down the canvas over it straight. Then shall they lay on the bed of down and one of the Yeomen to tumble up and down upon the same for the search thereof, and to beat it and lay it even and smooth. Then the Yeoman taking the Assay to deliver them a blanket of fustian on which all the Yeomen must lay hands at once, that it touch not nor ruffle not the bed. Then the bolster likewise tried and laid on without touching the bed. Then to lay on the nether sheet, likewise to take assay and that it touch not the bed, until it be laid where it should be; then take both the sheet and the fustian and truss the same back together under the feather bed on both sides and at the feet and under the bolster. Then the Esquire for the Body to take the other sheet and roll it in his arm or stripe it through his hands, and then go to the bed's head and stripe over the bed twice or thrice down to the feet. Then all the said Yeomen to lay hands on the sheet and lay it plain on the bed; then

the other fustian or two and such a covering as shall best content the King. Then take a pane of ermine and lay it above, then a pane or two of marterns. Then to roll or fold down the uppermost of the bed, sheet and all, the space of an ell. Then the Yeoman takes the pillows and beat and raise them well, and deliver them to the Esquires of the Body, who shall lay them on as shall best please the King. Then take the head sheet of raynes and lay one side thereof under each end of the bolster and the other side to lie still. Then take a head sheet of ermine and lay it above and over, and then the other side of the head sheet raynes and cover the bed over and over on every side, first taking an assay of all those that have touched any part thereof, making a cross and kissing there where their hands last were. And then to stick up the angels about the same bed, and an usher to let down the sparver or curtain and knit them; and an Esquire for the Body to cast holy water on the same bed."

"Item.—An Esquire for the Body ought then forthwith to charge a secret groom or page to take a light and have the keeping of the same until the time that the King be disposed to go to it.

"Item.—A groom or page ought to take a torch while the bed is making, and fetch a loaf of bread, a pot of ale, and another of wine, and bring it without the traverse, where all they which were at the making of the bed shall go and drink together."

Regarding this quaint description, it should be remarked that it is very similar to a reprint made by I. C. Brooke, Rouge Croix, 15th January, 1776. He says that the account is extracted from an original manuscript which belonged to the Earl Marshal of England, containing the whole duty of the Lord Chamberlain, and was copied for the instruction of Henry FitzAlan, Earl of Arundel, who was Lord Chamberlain to Henry VIII. in 1526.

With regard to these details it may be desirable to mention that *assay* was a "tryal or proof"; the word *fetch* then meant to test or try; *pane* was a covering, probably like the counterpane of modern times; *marterns* is intended for marten, a kind of fur. There is a doubt about *raynes*, but it most likely was a kind of striped velvet; and the *sparver* was a canopy set up over the bed.

Some of the Guard were called Bed Hangers and some Bed Goers, and the titles are still continued, though their elaborate duties as detailed in the above ordinance have long been obsolete.

It may be interesting to observe that at this period a bed of downe with a bolster cost £5. The teaster of tynsell and black velvet with arms, having curtains of silk with frynges, was worth £20.

Fifty of the Guard were accoutred as bowmen and the other fifty were armed with the halberd. The King was himself a famous archer, and a contemporary poet says of him—

See where he shoteth at the butts,
And with him are lords three;
He weareth a gowne of veltette blacke,
And it is coted above the knee.

Amongst his expenses are such items as—"Lost to my lord Morging at buttes, 6s. 8d.;" "Payed to Sir Edward Boroughe, 13s. 4d., which the King lost at buttes with his crosse-bowe."

Both the King's sons were likewise expert archers, especially Arthur, the elder one; and it came to be customary to call the champion archer "Prince Arthur," and other good bowmen were called his knights; but the pleasantry seems only to have lasted till the next reign, when, as will be seen, the champion Barlow was dubbed Duke of Shoreditch. On the death of Prince Arthur his brother Henry became patron

of the art, and Hall, the Chronicler, in his *Life of Henry VIII.*, says that when he came to the throne "he shotte as strong and as greate a lengthe as any of his Garde."

In the *Canterbury Tales* Chaucer describes the Yeoman bowman as follows:—

And he was clad in cote and hode of grene,
A shefe of pecocke arrowes bryght and shene
Under his belt he bare ful thriftely;
Well coude he dresse his tackle yeomanly;
His arrowes drouped not with fethers lowe,
And in hand he bare a myghty bowe.

The "pecocke arrowes" are no fiction, for in a Cottonian MS. is an item of 12 arrows for the King, plumed with peacock's feathers, 12*d.*

An improvement in fire-arms which took place in this reign induced the King to arm some of his Yeomen with the new weapon, which was called the arquebuss. The word is derived from arc-a-bouche, or arc-a-bousa, it being a weapon combining the old handgun with the cross-bow.

THE UNIFORM.

There does not appear to be any complete description of the uniform worn by the Yeomen of the Guard when they made their first appearance at the coronation. The colour of the Royal livery was then, and always has been, scarlet. The Tudor rose was worn as an ornament on the breast. The shoulders and arms as far as the elbows were protected with scale armour, and they wore knee-breeches and stockings of various colours.

The following engraving gives a fair idea of what the Yeomen of the Guard looked like towards the end of the thirteenth century.



YEOMAN BOWMAN OF THE TIME OF HENRY VII.

Mr. Henry Shaw, in his *Dresses and Decorations of the Middle Ages*, says that the extravagance in dress of the fifteenth century appears at no period more remarkable than during the reign of Henry VII. Shoes in the previous reign had been worn of inordinate length, so long, indeed, as to

require the point to be supported by a cord attached to the garter. Now the fashion turned to broad toes or "ducks' bills"; and it is in shoes of this kind that the pictures of the period would show the Yeomen of the Guard.

Also, referring to the costume worn at this period, Strutt says that "the dress of the English was exceedingly fantastical and absurd, insomuch that it was even difficult to distinguish one sex from the other."

This must have referred exclusively to civilian costume. It could hardly have applied to the Yeomen of the Guard. But there was then a perplexing similarity in the names of articles of male and female wearing apparel which may very well account for the mistakes made. We read of a gentleman on getting up in the morning requiring "a clene sherte and breche, a pettycote, a doublett, a long cotte, a stomacher, hys hozen, his socks, and his schoen." A gentleman of to-day dressed in these garments might well be mistaken for one of the gentler sex.

Henry VII. died in 1509, and at his funeral twelve Yeomen of his Guard bore his body to the tomb in Westminster Abbey. In the programme of the ceremonial it is recorded that "then followed the Lord Darcy, being Cap-tayn of the Garde, after whom came the Garde and many other gentlemen."

At the west "dore of St. Powles, the saide Corps," which had been thus "brought through the cittie with torches innumerable," was received by the Bishop of London, and after it had been "encensed" it was taken out of the chariot "and borne by xij p'sons of the Garde, because of the weight thereof," into the choir, where it remained till the morrow, when the Yeomen again attended, carried the body to the chariot, and accompanied the procession to Westminster Abbey, at the door of which the body was lifted out of the chariot by the Yeomen of the Guard and carried to the choir."

Parts of the inscription on his tomb in Westminster Abbey are as follow :—

HERE LIES
HENRY THE SEVENTH, KING OF ENGLAND
.
.
.
WHO BEING PROCLAIMED KING THE 22ND OF AUGUST
WAS CROWNED AT WESTMINSTER ON THE
30TH OF OCTOBER FOLLOWING, 1485.

OF ALL THE PRINCES OF HIS TIME THE MOST CELEBRATED.
WHOSE WISDOM AND GLORIOUS ACTIONS
RECEIVED ADDITIONAL DIGNITY FROM HIS MAJESTIC
STATURE, HIS AUGUST COUNTENANCE AND MANY OTHER
NATURAL ADVANTAGES.

THE GLORY OF MONARCHY ; MILD, VIGILANT, BRAVE AND WISE
OF A MOST COMELY PERSONAGE ;
DIED 21 APRIL 1509.

THE QUEEN'S YEOMEN.

Part of the Guard was told off to attend on the Queen, and in 1502 they were paid at the rate of one shilling per day. One of them, named Griffiths, was buried at the Queen's expense in the churchyard of St. Margaret, Westminster, at the cost of xij s. iiij d.

A BRAVE YEOMAN.

The following "anecdote of an English Yeoman, in the 4th of Henry VII.," is taken from an old Chronicle reprinted in 1771 :—

"On this season the Flemmyings holding the Frenshe partie, and on especial thoose of Brugges, with the assistance

of the Lord Guardis, had beseged Dixemve on Flaundres. The Lord Dawbeney, the King's Lieutenant of Calais, and the Lord Morley, with divers ouldir noble Knightes and Esquires of the garnyson, and of the crew of Calais, and of the Englishe marche in thoos parties, rescued Dixemvie, and brake the sege. And their ware slayne the substance of al those whiche had beseged it, as well as the Lord Guardes servaunts, as the garnyson of Scottes, which lay at Ostenguen, with the substance of the Bruggelingis. Of the Englishe partie, there was slayn that gentill young Knight the Lorde Morley, and many noblemen hurt; as Sir James Tyrrell sore wounded in the legge with a Quarell; and a gentill and a courageous Esquier called Robert Bellyngham, the whiche foughte in his cotte of armes foot gerded with his swerd upon his harnois. And their was wonnen moche Artillerye, whereof moche was brent with the Gounne Pouldre. Also it is not to be forgotten, but to by had in remembrance, the goode courage of an Englishe yoman [of the Guarde] called John Person, whiche was somtymes a baker of Coventre. Which John Person, after that a gounne had borne away his foote by the small of the legge, yet that notwithstanding, what setting and what kneling, shotte after, many of his arrows, and when the Frenchemen fledde, and his felowes were in the chase, he cried to one of his felowes, and saide, 'Have thow these vi arowes that I have lefte and folow thow the chase, for I may not.' The whiche John Person died within a few days after, on whose soulle God have mercy."






YEOMAN OF THE GUARD,

1520.

HENRY VIII.

1509 TO 1547.

THE GUARD IN FRANCE.

URING the reign of Henry VIII. the Corps became famous. The King was proud of his Guard, and in the year 1510 he doubled its strength and also added 100 mounted men, who acted as a cavalry escort in all processions. Fifty of them were armed with a new kind of arquebuss; and when the King led his army into France in 1513 the Guard was increased to 600 men, most of them archers. They took part in the siege of Turenne, when—Hall says—they wore white gaberdines and caps. The picture in Hampton Court Palace of the meeting of Henry VIII. and Maximilian does not however show the Yeomen, or, if it does, they do not appear to be clad as Hall describes them.

They were present at “The Battle of the Spurs” and helped to capture Tournay; and 400 of them were told off to garrison the town under their commander Lord Mountjoy, who undoubtedly owed his life to their fidelity; for all the other troops mutinied, and the 400 English Yeomen won great renown for their faithfulness and valour, being styled “The Constables of Tournay,” and received a money reward from the King and his thanks on their return to England.

The year 1520 was famous for the grand meeting of Henry VIII. and Francis I., King of France, on the Field of the Cloth of Gold. The Guard played a very prominent part

in this famous pageant, and fortunately there is a picture extant which enables us to see exactly how they appeared and what were their duties at this period. The picture was at the beginning of this century at Windsor Castle; but when Hampton Court Palace was restored and thrown open for public inspection the picture and several others illustrating the history of the reign of Henry VIII., who built the palace, were appropriately added to the collection. It is now hung in Queen Anne's Audience Chamber, and numbered 342 in the catalogue of pictures.

The following description of the picture is an abridgment of that given in the *Archaeologia*, omitting the parts not in any way connected with the history of the Yeomen of the Guard, but retaining enough particulars to show how extremely interesting the picture is.

In a French picture of the Field of the Cloth of Gold one of the English Yeomen of the Guard is represented on horseback and carrying a bow.

The interview between the two monarchs took place on the open plain, named, from the magnificence of the pageant, "Le Camp de Drap d'Or"—the Field of the Cloth of Gold. The proceedings began on the 4th of June, 1520, and lasted 28 days.

In the foreground, on the right-hand side of the picture, is the very numerous English cavalcade, marching out of the town of Guines and entering the castle-gate by a bridge thrown over the ditch. Its farther progress is not here represented: but it may be supposed to have passed from the castle, through the sally-port, to the place of interview, along the valley and by the side of the rivulet there described. The guns of the castle are represented as firing while the King passed. The advanced guard consisted of his guard of bill-men with their officers. Then follow three ranks of men on foot, five in a rank, and all unarmed. After them are five of Wolsey's domestics on horseback.

entertained at dinner the French King and Queen and their principal nobility. At a small distance from it is a view of the culinary offices set up on the plain, consisting of a large group of ovens, at which several bakers are busied ; and two spacious tents, whose fronts, being thrown open, discover the one to be intended for boiling and the other for roasting, in which offices several cooks are employed. From these kitchens fourteen Yeomen of the Guard, each carrying a covered dish, are going towards the royal pavilion, preceded by the Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Steward, bearing his white staff, and attended by a gentleman wearing a sash. In the background, and at the extremity on the left-hand side, appear the lists or camp set apart for the justs and tournaments. French soldiers—in a blue and yellow uniform, with a salamander, the badge of Francis I. embroidered on it—keep the entrance on one hand, and the English Yeomen with their halberds on the other.

The picture here described, which is five feet six inches high by eleven feet three inches in breadth, has been generally ascribed to Hans Holbein, but without foundation, as he did not arrive in England till near six years after the interview: and, besides, his style, colouring, &c., are widely different. It is observable that the head of King Henry appears to have been cut out of the picture and afterwards restored. This was a contrivance of Philip Earl of Pembroke, after the death of King Charles I., to prevent a French agent from purchasing it; for, finding it thus mutilated, the Frenchman declined the purchase. By this means it was preserved in the palace till the Restoration, when the Earl of Pembroke delivered the mutilated piece to King Charles II., who immediately ordered it to be restored to its place.

The accompanying sketches of three of the Yeomen of the Guard are taken from the picture.



YEOMAN OF THE GUARD,

1520.

Five years later, that is, in 1525, Henry found it necessary to put an end to some of his extravagances, and so set about retrenching his household expenses. Cardinal Wolsey assisted the King, and the result of their deliberations was the issue at Lady Day 1526 of what are known in history as the *Statutes of Eltham*. They were so called because they were made and promulgated at the Palace at Eltham. The preamble recited the reasons which had prompted the King to increase the Guard, mainly in consequence of the wars, which now being ended his Majesty decreed a diminution of the number of the Guard, and its re-establishment on an improved basis.

The ordinances went on to state that "the number of Yeomen is now so great, and they occupy the greatest part of the lodgings, and entertain, every of them, one or two lads or simple servants, whom they cannot afford to keep." It was then ordered that Yeomen Ushers have 12*d.* per day and allowances, to keep no servants in the Court or suffer them to come there.

If any of the Guard offended they were to lose three days' wages the first time; the second time a week, the third time a month, and for the fourth time they were to be expelled out of their rooms. As to the rest of those discharged, the King made them *Yeomen of the Crown*. "Any not having 2*d.* per day wages to have an allowance of 6*d.* per day unchecked; and those that have offices of 2*d.* per day shall have besides 4*d.* per day unchecked. To be allowed to repair to their dwellings, but to be ready to attend the King when he required them, and as they die no new ones to be appointed."

The Yeomen Waiters, upon their waiting-day, were to "purge the haute place at the King's chamber door of all manner of servants, rascalls, boys, and others, so as the same place be not pestered with any great number of persons and that they see that the same haute place be clean

kept, so that no waste water, broken-meat, or other thing be cast or remain there to the annoyance and filthiness of the same."

The principal result of the revised statutes and ordinances was that the Guard was reduced from 600 to 200, and their several duties and privileges were accurately defined.

On this subject Hall says:—"Alas! what sorrow and what lamentation was made when all these persons should depart the Court. Some said that the poor servants were undone and must steal; some said they were found of the reversions [remains] of the other service, so that for them was nothing more set out at the dresser, and it was great charity to find them. Others said how they would polle [cheat] in their countreys, and oppress the poor people."

THE UNIFORM.

The picturesquely handsome uniform which the Yeomen of the Guard now wear is not like that which they wore in 1520. This may be seen from an inspection of the accompanying sketches. Indeed, there was obviously a good deal of diversity in the cut and colour of the dress worn by the Guard previously to 1527. In that year the King gave an order for a livery of red; that is, *scarlet* cloth for his Guard, and the coats were ordered to be embroidered front and back, with the crowned rose for badges. The coats were to be made to reach down to the knees. The caps to be of black velvet, round, and broad crowned, with ribbons of the King's colours. The breeches were to be scarlet, and to reach to the knee, and to be guarded with velvet. They also wore grey stockings and broad-toed shoes with knee-bows, that is, roses made up of bows of ribbon, and shoe-bows to match. The cross-belt for the arquebuss went over the left shoulder, and there was a waist-belt with a frog on the left side for the sword. From an entry in the

Household Books, dated 29th March, 1532, we find that the shooters' livery coats cost £1 2s. 6d. each, the charge for two being "xlv s."

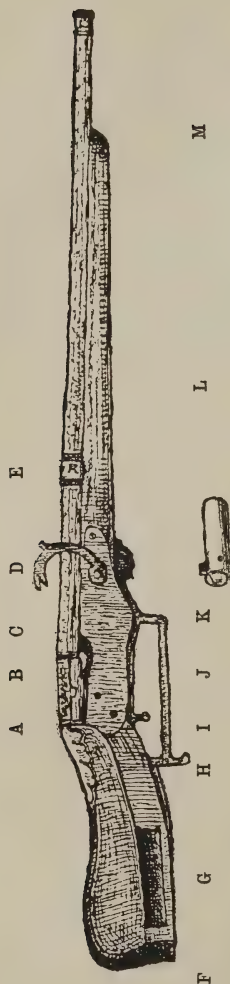
A MS. at Heralds' College contains the following copy of a Payment by Warrant, dated 1543 :—

"Item, to Simond FitzRichards and Robert Perry, Yeomen of the Guard, for their costs in going to London for the riche cotes of the Guard against Whitsuntide by the space of iiij days every of them, and for ij carts for carriage of the said riche coates from London to Kingston-upon-Thames, and for ij carts to carry the said cotes from Kingston to London again by the King's Highness commandmte, as appeareth by a byll signed with Chamberlayne's hand, xiiij s. viii d."

THE ARQUEBUSS.

Being so much employed in the wars it was only natural that Henry should arm his favourite Guard with the very best weapons obtainable, and of the newest kind. Fire-arms had begun to attract considerable attention, so much, indeed, that Acts of Parliament were passed to prevent the bow being entirely discarded. Nevertheless, Henry armed part of his Body Guard with the new arquebuss, and the accompanying sketch is made from one of these weapons still preserved in the Tower of London. This arquebuss has seen some rough usage in its time, and may have been hidden in the ground, for all the metal work is eaten with rust, and the mahogany stock is black.

But apart from its probable connection with the Yeomen of the Guard, this weapon is remarkable as being a breech-loader, and as having a solid cartridge-case, another illustration of the adage that "there is nothing new under the sun." The breech is opened by a hinged flange very similar



A BREECHLOADING ARQUEBUSS, DATED 1537.

- A. A brass ornament.
- B. Flap which opens and closes the breech.
- C. The date 1537.
- D. The match-holder with thumb screw.
- E. Initials of King Henry VIII. H. R.
- F. A small receptacle in the heel of the stock.
- G. A larger chamber to hold tools, or match.
- H. Guard by which the weapon was swung to the cross-belt.
- I. Trigger which pulled down the match. J. Priming pan.
- K. Iron cartridge case. L. The stock.
- M. Place for ram-rod.

to the breech arrangement of the rifles of the present day, except that it opened from right to left, whereas the Snider rifle and carbine open from left to right. The cartridge-case is of iron, and when charged with powder and ball was inserted in the breech, so that the touch-hole should come opposite a similar hole connected with the priming-pan. The flange was then turned over, and the breech being closed the cartridge-case became fixed in the required position. The weapon was fired by pulling the trigger, which brought down the smouldering match to the priming-pan, and set light to the powder. To re-load it was only necessary to open the breech, take out the empty cartridge-case, fill it again or insert another case already filled. Whether there were any complaints by the Yeomen of "jammed cartridges" is not recorded, but the principle of solid cartridge-cases which is now being reverted to in the army is evidently as old as the hills.

This arquebuss is undoubtedly of the period ascribed to it, for it bears on the band on the barrel the letters H. R. deeply embossed, and on the flange (but partly on the barrel) is the date 1537. On the flange itself is the crowned rose; and the arms of Henry VIII. can be traced, as well as the letters W. H., which are supposed to be the initials of the gunsmith who made the weapon. On the brass leaf ornament, on the stock in the rear of the breech, there is a faint outline of an engraving of an arquebussier on horseback. This remarkable weapon is complete, with the exception of the cleaning rod (for which there is a receptacle), and the lid of the cavity in the stock is missing. The barrel is twenty-three inches long.

PRIZE SHOOTING.

Shooting in fanciful positions seems to have been practised by archers centuries ago as it is now by the riflemen at the Wimbledon Prize Meetings.

Hall in his *Life of Henry VIII.* relates that—

“There came to his Grace King Henry the Eighth a certayn man, with a bowe and arrowe, and he desyred his Grace to take the muster of him, and to see him shoote; for that tyme hys Grace was contented; the man put hys one fote in his bosome, and so dyd shoote, and shote a very good shote, and well towards his marke; whereof not only his Grace, but all others, greatly merveyled; so the King gave him a reward.” The man was afterwards known by the sobriquet of “Fote-in-bosome.”

The title of “The Duke of Shoreditch” originated under the following circumstances:—“The King having appointed a great archery meeting at Windsor, there came amongst the competitors a famous archer from Shoreditch named Barlow, and he shot so well that he surpassed all the others, which so much pleased the King, who, being in a merry mood, jocosely dubbed the champion *The Duke of Shoreditch*, and this title was long afterwards retained by the captain for the time being of the English archers.”

The following narrative taken from Hall introduces the Yeomen of the Guard in an entirely new uniform; the Captain, Sir Henry Guildford, appearing as Robin Hood and the Guard as Foresters:—

“The King and Queen, accompanied with many lords and ladies, rode to the high ground of Shooter’s Hill to take the open air, and as they passed by the way they espied a company of tall Yeomen, clothed all in green, with green hoods and bows and arrows, to the number of two hundred. Then one of them, which called himself Robin Hood, came to the King, desiring him to see his men shoot, and the King was content. Then he whistled and all the two hundred archers shot and loosed at once; and then he whistled again and they likewise shot again; their arrows whistled by craft of the head, so that the noise was strange and great, and much pleased the King, the Queen, and all the company.

All these archers were of the King's Guard, and had thus appareled themselves to make solace to the King. Then Robin Hood desired the King and Queen to come into the green wood, and to see how the outlaws live. The King demanded of the Queen and her ladies if they durst adventure to go into the woods with so many outlaws. Then the Queen said if it pleased him she was content. Then the horns blew till they came to the wood under Shooter's Hill, and there was an arbour made with boughs, with a hall and a great chamber, and an inner chamber, very well made, and covered with flowers and sweet herbs, which the King very much praised. Then, said Robin Hood, sir, outlaws' breakfast is venison, and therefore you must be content with such fare as we use. Then the King departed and his company, and Robin Hood and his men them conducted."

In the Household Books there are many entries relating to the making and repairing the butts and targets, but the mark for the best shots was a hazel rod or wand. The prize was usually an arrow of silver or gold. This appears from an old poem entitled "The Mery Gest of Robyn Hood," in which we read—

He that shoteth al of the best
 Furthest, fayre, and lowe,
 At a payre of goodly buttes
 Under the greenwood show,
 A right good arrowe he shal have
 The shaft of silver whyte,
 The head and fethers of riche red gold,
 In England none is lyke.

.

Thrise Robin shot about
 And away he cleft the wand.

Amongst other items of interest in this reign the following relate to the Yeomen of the Guard:—

1519.—The King sent 100 of his Guard with the Earl of Surrey to Ireland on his appointment to the post of Viceroy or Deputy, as the Lord Lieutenant was then called.

1521.—Part of the Guard were selected by the King to accompany Cardinal Wolsey to France on the occasion of his going there to act as mediator between Francis I. and the Emperor Charles V.

By the King's command Sir Henry Morney (Captain of the Guard from 1520 to 1526), with 100 of the Guard, attached the Duke of Buckingham and conveyed him a prisoner to the Tower of London; and Sir William Kingston, Knight, who was Captain from 1523 to 1536, was sent by the King to Sheffield to take Cardinal Wolsey to the Tower as a prisoner.

1544.—The Yeomen were present at the siege of Boulogne, and this appears to have been the last occasion on which they acted with the army.

The following items are extracted from the King's Household Books:—

1531.—1 March.	Paid to the Yeomen of the King's Garde towards the charges of S. David's Feast.	... ..	xj s.
	This item is repeated in 1532.		
13 March.	Paid to John Weste, of the Garde, to ryde into the country for an Hawk by the King's command .		xx s.
1 May.	Paid to John West, one of the Garde, towards his marriage, by the King's command	... .. iij li. vjs. viij d.	
3 June.	To John Holland, of the Gard, on his marriage, by the King's command	... ..	v li.

23 May. To one of the Garde for shooting at Greenwich	...	...	ij s.
1 August. Paid in reward to one of the Garde	...	...	xxij s. vj d.
1532.—27 October. Paid to Parker, Yeoman of the Robes, for doublets for the Garde to wrestle before the French King at Calais	...	...	xliiij s. viij d.
31 October. Paid to Michell, one of the Garde, for carrying the King's stuff from Dover to Calais...	...	...	iijs. xd.
1536.—Given to the Yeomen of the King's Garde, presenting a leek to My Lady Princess Mary, daughter of Henry VIII.	...	...	xvs.
1537.—This item occurs again on St. David's Day	...	...	xvs.
1543.—To one of the Yeomen of the Garde for bringing a trout	...	...	vs.
For a leek on St. David's Day	...	...	xvs.

This next entry is somewhat obscure. "26th August, 1531.—Paid, by the King's command, to the Garde for to eat a buck at Woodstock, xls." Whether the King was in a merry mood and made a bet that the members of the Guard then at Woodstock could not eat a buck, or whether the forty shillings was to buy a buck, is uncertain. Sir H. Nicolas, in his notes on the Household Books, says "it is not easily explained."

Ashmole states that in his time there was in the churchyard of Shottesbrooke, in Berkshire, a marble gravestone whereon are inserted brasses with the following epitaph:—

HERE LYETH BURIED
 THOMAS NOKE
 WHO FOR HIS GREATE AGE AND VERTUOUS LIFE WAS REVERENCED OF
 ALL MEN AND COMMONLY CALLED
 FATHER NOKE
 CREATED ESQUIRE BY HENRY THE EIGHT
 HE WAS OF STATURE HIGH AND COMELY AND FOR HIS EXCELLENCE
 IN ARTILLERY WAS MADE A
 YEOMAN OF THE CROWNE OF ENGLAND
 WHICH HAD IN HIS LYFE THREE WIVES AND OF EVERY OF THEM
 CAME FRUIT AND OFFSPRING AND DECEASED 21 AUGUST 1567 IN THE
 YEAR OF HIS AGE 87.

Noke was a native of Bray in Berkshire.

This chapter may appropriately be concluded with the following anecdote of Henry VIII. The King was fond of disguising himself, and in this manner going about among his subjects. An escapade of this kind is said by Fuller to have given to the Yeomen of the Guard the sobriquet of Beefeaters:—

Once, while on a hunting expedition at Reading Abbey, he dressed himself in the uniform of one of his Yeomen of the Guard, and so disguised paid a visit to the Abbot about dinner-time. Being apparently one of the King's retinue he received welcome from the Abbot, and was invited to dine at his own table. The principal dish was a large joint of beef, and the King, being "hungry as a hunter," ate heartily, yea, voraciously of the meat. The Abbot, observing his evident enjoyment, addressed him, saying, "Well fare thy heart! And here in a cup of sack I remember the health of His Grace your master. I would an hundred pounds if I could eat as heartily of beef as you. Alas! my weak and squeamish stomach will hardly digest a piece of a small


rabbit or a chicken." After courteous thanks the guest departed.

In a few weeks after the Abbot was committed, he knew not why, a close prisoner to the Tower, and his food was limited to the usual prison fare—bread and water, and with this he had to be content for some time. At last, to his surprise and delight, a joint of beef was put before the prisoner and he attacked it with gusto. While so employed the Abbot was astonished to see the King enter the room and demand a hundred pounds of him for having restored to him his lost appetite for roast beef. The money was ultimately paid and the prisoner released, and ever thereafter whenever the Abbot saw a Yeoman of the Guard he thought of the *Beefeater* and the King in disguise as a Yeoman of the Guard. The tale is told by some other historians with some slight variations, and it is just possible that the jocular name of *Beefeater* was given to the Guard when this bit of waggyery came to be told and repeated, as it would be with great glee.



EDWARD VI.

1547 TO 1553.

 DWARD VI., or rather perhaps his Council, soon set aside the *Statutes of Eltham*. The strength of the Corps was again fixed at 200, of whom 66 ranked as Yeomen in Ordinary and the rest as Yeomen Extraordinary. There were also 15 sent to the Tower to do duty as Warders.

Young as he was, Edward seems to have taken great care in the selection of his Guard, and Sir John Hayward in his *Life and Reign of Edward VI.* says that "Generally none might be of his Guard but (besides of tall and comely stature) such as were either good archers or wrestlers or casters of the barre or leapers or runners or of some other man-like quality." But the Guard appears to have been under the direct control of the Lords of the Council. According to Stowe, they sent Sir Anthony Wingfield, the Captain of the Guard, to the King at Windsor, and severed the Lord Protector from his person, and caused the Guard to watch him till the Lords coming.

The following items are from the Council Registers:—

"At Westminster, 16th October, 1550, a warrant was issued to deliver £77 7s. to 24 Yeomen of the Guard for waiting 17 days, after the rate of xiid. by the day, to be paid to John Peers, Clerk of the Cheque."

This is the first occasion that the Clerk of the Cheque is mentioned. The office is further noticed in the chapter on

Officers; but the following extracts show that, though the Clerk was granted a pension, he continued to fulfil at least some part of the duties of his office :—

“ Westminster, 28 June, 1550.

“ That John Peers, Clerke of the Checke of the Garde, in consideration of his long and painfull [painstaking] service, shall have a pension of £20 a-year.”

“ At Oatlands, the 28th Sep. 1550.

“ A warrant to Sir Edmond Peckham to deliver unto Sir William Cavendish, the Treasurer of the Chamber, £204 12s. to be paid to John Peers, Clerk of the Checke, for the wages of the Garde for the month of September, 1550.”

“ At Westminster, the 25th November, 1550.

“ A warrant in parchment to the Treasurer of the Xths [Tenths] to pay £156 for the watch liveries of the Garde.”

“ At Westminster, the 7th December, 1550.

“ A warrant to pay £305 to John Pyeres [Peers], Clerk of the Checque, for the payment of one hundreth Yeomen Extraordinarie attending aboute the King's Majesty's person the months of October and November, being in number 56 daies, at xii d. euerie of the day.”

“ At Westminster, xth December, 1551.

“ A warrant to the Chancellor and Treasurer of the Augmentations Court, to deliuer unto John Peers, Clerk of the Cheque, the sum of £300 to be by him defrayed about payment of wages due to the Garde.”

Regarding uniform there is little or nothing to be said, except that in a coloured drawing of the procession of Edward VI. from the Tower the trunk-hosen are of different colours. An order for clothing mentions red caps and red coats, but the colour of the rest of the uniform is not specified.

Regarding weapons, the copy of the King's diary (published in the *Archæologia*) shows that he was a patron of the art of archery, and could use the bow with some skill. His guard were partly armed with halberds, cross-bows, and hand-guns; but the use of these weapons by the people generally was forbidden by law, under a penalty of ten pounds.

The King writes: "There mustered before me 100 archers, two arrows apiece, all of the Guard, who afterwards shot together. They shot at an inch board, which some pierced quite and stuck in the other board. Divers pierced the target quite through with the heads of their arrows, the boards being very well seasoned timber."

On the occasion of an archery *fête* given to entertain the French Ambassador, M. le Maréchal St. André, the King says, "He saw me shoot, and saw all my Guards shoot together."

As the Guards became used to the new weapon, called the carabine, with which some of them were now armed, the bowmen were less numerous, and their number was again lessened by the introduction of a handsome weapon of the bill type, called a partizan, with which about half of the Corps were armed. This is the same weapon which is still carried by the Guard. The original partizans were however about ten feet long, whereas those in present use are only seven feet eight inches. The royal arms and initials "E.R." were engraved on the head. There are several of these old partizans in the Tower, but their exact age cannot be traced, as the rust of centuries, combined with the systematic polishing of latter times, have left but the semblance of the original enrichments. The name partizan was derived from a French bill or pike carried by the *Gardes de la Manche*, called "la pertuisane." Sir Thomas More, writing about the Guard, calls them *billmen*, and such they really were, for all the pikes, except those having axe-heads, were varieties of

the bill. Leland, in his account of the procession of the King from the Tower to Westminster, taken from a manuscript formerly belonging to William le Neve, Norroy King-at-Arms, quotes as follows: "On 9th February, 1547, the Pensioners and Men of Armes with their polle-axes, and the Guard five on a rank on foot with their halberts in their hands."


The "pole-axes" still carried by the Gentlemen-at-Arms are called halberds.

The Guard at this period always brought up the rear of the royal processions.



MARY I.

1553 to 1558.

N the Household Book of Queen Mary, under date 1553, it is recorded that there were then on the salaried establishment of the Yeomen of the Guard—

1 Clerk of the Cheque at £20 per annum.

4 Ushers at £4 11s. 3d. per annum.

200 Yeomen of the Guard in Ordinary at 1s. 4d. per day.

207 Yeomen Extraordinary, 66 at 6d. per day, 141 at 4d. per day.

And there were also 30 Yeomen of the Crown whose pay was at the rate of 6d. a-day. The subjoined items indicate very clearly what gorgeous uniforms the Guard wore in Mary's reign:—

“At the Coronation, 1st October, 1553 then came the Captain of the Guard and the Guard following him in their rich coats.”

“1553.—Copy of a warrant for payment to Peter Richardson, maker of spangles for the rich coats of the Queen's Highness's Guard, the sum of £1,000.”

By another warrant of the same year there is authority “to pay to the above-mentioned Peter Richardson, goldsmith, for 7175 oz. of spangles gilt, delivered to the Queen's embroiderers for embroidering the coats of Her Majesty's Guard,” &c.

At the Court at St. James's the 17th November, 1555, there was an order made for "A warrant to the Treasurer and Chamberlain of the Exchequer to pay to Mr. Walgrave, Mr. [Master] of the Great Wardrobe, £275, to be by him paid over for the watch and liveries due to the Yeomen of the Guard at Michaelmas 1554."

"At Eltham, 6th August, 1556.


"This day, my Lords of the Council, upon considering of the state of things at this time, resolved, for the preventing of all inconvenience that might happen and safeguard of the King and Queen's Majesty's persons, if need should require, that Mr. Comptroller, in the absence of the Lord Steward, and Mr. Treasurer and Mr. Underchamberlain, in the absence of the Chamberlain, should to-morrow in the morning call before them the Officers of the Household and the Yeomen of the Guard, and other servants under their charge, and to inquire what armour and weapons each of them hath," &c.

It is very much to be feared that the large increase in the number of the Yeomen Extraordinary was due to the terrible work allotted to them of attending the punishment and execution of the unfortunate people who were condemned to be burned or tortured as heretics. They appear to have been especially selected for their horrible vocation, for we read only too often of the needless torture inflicted by the Guard, and many revolting acts of cruelty are also laid to their charge. They were indeed Yeomen "Extraordinary."



ELIZABETH.

1558 to 1603.

 ONTEMPORARY records show that the Corps was kept up to its strength of 200 in Elizabeth's reign; the number of the Yeomen Extraordinary, however, was altered to the somewhat curious total of 107. The thirty Yeomen of the Crown were retained, and four Ushers were appointed.

From a volume in Sir Hans Sloane's library, now in the British Museum, the salaries in this reign appear to have been as follows:—Clerk of the Cheque, fee £20; ordinary Yeomen (200), fee to each, 16*d.* per day; extra Yeomen (107), 41 had 8*d.* and 66 4*d.*; Yeomen of the Crown (30), 6*d.* each. In another undated list (probably 1592) it is stated that the pay of the ordinary Yeomen was 20*d.* per day.

No very material changes in regard to uniform appear to have been introduced during this reign. On a monument (dated 1568) at East Wickham church (Kent) there is an effigy of a Yeoman of the Guard named William Payn, who died in this year. He is clad in his uniform, on which is to be traced the embroidery of a rose, surmounted by a crown.

He wears a beard and ruff with trunk-breeches, and has a sword by his side.

On his visit to the Tower, Hentzner saw, amongst other things, "a great many rich halberds, commonly called partizans, with which the Guards defend the Royal person in battle."

During this reign letters to several counties were sent "for the putting in readiness a certain number of men to serve for the Guard of Her Majestie's person, whereof, of every 100, twenty were appointed to be armed with pikes, [] for the shot, and the rest bows and bills, according to a minute remaining in the Council chest."

Paul Hentzner, in his valuable work, *A Journey into England*, dated 1598, states that he saw Queen Elizabeth dine in public in that year, when the Yeomen attended and served the dinner bareheaded. They wore scarlet with a golden rose on their backs.

The statement respecting their being bareheaded is, however, of doubtful accuracy, as the custom was and is to wear the hat in the presence of Royalty, and not to doff it even if addressed by the Sovereign.

Paul Hentzner, during his before-mentioned visit to England in 1598, had had the opportunity of attending at the Royal Palace at Greenwich, and there saw the Queen in all the magnificence of royal ceremonial. Queen Elizabeth was fond of Greenwich. It was her birthplace, and she kept her Court there in great splendour.

Hentzner's visit was on a Sunday. He tells us that he saw the Queen go to chapel attended by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London and a grand suite of noblemen. The guard consisted of the Gentlemen Pensioners, fifty in number, carrying gilt battle-axes. The service scarcely exceeded half-an-hour, and then Her Majesty returned in the same state and order to dinner. His nar-

rative is continued as follows :—" We saw her table set out with the following solemnity : A gentleman entered the room bearing a rod, and along with him another who had a table-cloth, which, after they had both kneeled three times, with the utmost veneration, he spread upon the table, and after kneeling again they both retired. Then came two others, one with the rod again, the other with the salt-cellar, a plate and bread ; when they had kneeled, as the others had done, and placed what was brought upon the table, they two retired with the same ceremonies performed by the first. At last came an unmarried lady (we were told she was a countess), and along with her a married one, bearing a tasting-knife ; the former was dressed in white silk, who, when she had prostrated herself three times, in the most grateful manner, approached the table, rubbing the plates with bread and salt, with as much awe as if the Queen had been present ; when they had waited there a little while the Yeomen of the Guard entered bareheaded, clothed in scarlet, with golden roses upon their backs, bringing in at each turn a course of twenty-four dishes, served in plate, most of them gilt ; these dishes were received by gentlemen in the same order they were brought, and placed upon the table, while the lady-taster gave to each of the Guard a mouthful to eat of the particular dish he had brought, for fear of poison. During the time that this guard, which consists of the tallest and stoutest men that can be found in all England, being carefully selected for this service, were bringing dinner, twelve trumpets and two kettle-drums made the hall ring for half-an-hour together. At the end of all this ceremonial a number of unmarried ladies appeared, who with particular solemnity lifted the meat off the table and conveyed it into the Queen's inner and more private chamber, where, after she had chosen for herself, the rest goes to the ladies of the Court."

The Queen visited Archbishop Parker at Canterbury in 1573, when contrary to custom the Gentlemen Pensioners, and not the Yeomen of the Guard, carried up the Royal dinner.

MAUNDAY.

The following quaint and interesting description of the Order of the Maundy made at Greenwich, 19th March, 1572, by William Lambarde, was read before the Society of Antiquaries, 16th March, 1749 :—

“ First, the hall was prepared with a long table on each side and forms set by them; on the edges of which tables, and under those forms, were layed carpets and cushions for her Majesty to kneel when she would wash them [the poor]. There was also another table laid across the upper end of the hall, somewhat above the foot pace for the chappelan to stand at. A little beneath the midst whereof, and beneath the foot pace, a stool and cushion of estate was pitched for her Majesty to kneel at during service-time. This done, the holy water, basons, alms, and other things being brought into the hall, and the chappelan and poor folk having taken their said places, the Yeoman of the Laundry, armed with a fair towel, and taking a silver bason filled with warm water and sweet flowers, washed their feet, all, one after another, wiped the same with his towel, and so, making a cross a little above the toes kissed them. After him within a while followed the sub-almoner, doing likewise, and after him the almoner himself also; then lastly her Majesty came into the hall, and after some singing and prayers made, and the Gospel of Christ’s washing his disciples’ feet read, thirty-nine ladies and gentlemen, for so many were the poor folk (according to the number of years complete of her Majesty’s age), addressed themselves with aprons and towels to wait upon her Majesty; and she kneeling down upon the cushions, and carpets under the feet of the poor women, first washed one foot of every of them in so many several basons of warm

water and sweet flowers, brought to her severally by the said ladies and gentlewomen, then wiped, crossed, and kissed them, as the almoner and others had done before. When her Majesty had thus gone through the whole number of thirty-nine, of which twenty sat on the one side of the hall and nineteen on the other, she resorted to the first again, and gave to each one certain yards of broad-cloth to make a gown. Thirdly, she began at the first, and gave to each of them a pair of shoes. Fourthly, to each of them a wooden platter, wherein was half a side of salmon, as much lyng, six red herrings, and two cheat [wheaten] loaves of bread. Fifthly, she began with the first again, and gave to each of them a white wooden dish with claret wine. Sixthly, she received of each waiting-lady and gentlewoman their towel and apron, and gave to each poor woman one of the same. And after this the ladies and the gentlewomen waited no longer, nor served as they had done throughout the courses before; but then the treasurer of the chamber (Mr. Henneage) came to her Majesty with thirty-nine small white purses wherein were also thirty-nine pence (as they say), after the number of years of her Majesty's age; and of him she received and distributed them severally; which done she received of him so many several red leather purses each containing twenty shillings, for the redemption of her Majesty's gown, which (as men say) by ancient order she ought to give to some one of them at her pleasure; but she, to avoid the trouble of suit which accustomedly was made for that preferment, had changed that reward into money to be equally divided amongst them all, namely, twenty shillings a piece, and those she also delivered particularly to each one of the whole company; and so taking her ease upon the cushion of state, and hearing the choir a little while, her Majesty withdrew herself, and the company departed; for it was by that time the sun-setting.

W. L." (W. LAMBART.)

"20th March 1572."



SIR CHRISTOPHER HATTON,
CAPTAIN OF THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD,

1578.

SIR CHRISTOPHER HATTON.

By far the most prominent and distinguished officer of the Guard in Queen Elizabeth's reign was Sir Christopher Hatton: according to all accounts a very remarkable man and a great favourite of the Sovereign. The story of his introduction to the Queen and his subsequent rapid promotion is very interesting. Elizabeth was present in the year 1568 at a Masque in the Temple, the Master of the Games being a certain young student, named Christopher Hatton, who distinguished himself very considerably as the part author of a tragedy called "Tancred and Gismond," given before the Queen on this occasion by the students. So struck was the impressionable Sovereign by the good looks and noble bearing of the youthful student, that she at once gave him an appointment in her household—probably as Keeper of Eltham Palace. Other honours soon followed. The lucky law-student was next promoted to the post of a Gentleman Pensioner and then to that of Gentleman of the Privy Chamber. Soon after he was appointed Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, and lastly was created Lord Chancellor, having already been knighted and appointed Vice-Chamberlain to the Queen.

Hatton, knowing his power, set his heart upon having part of Ely Place for a residence, and easily induced the Queen to ask the Bishop of Ely to let her have the property. But the Bishop was obstinate, urging that he must not scatter what his predecessors had gathered. Whereupon the Queen wrote the famous epistle:—

"PROUD PRELATE,—You know what you were before I made you what you are now: if you do not immediately comply with my request, by G—d! I will unfrock you.

"ELIZABETH."

In the *Lives of the Chancellors* (1708) is the following eulogistic account of Hatton's career:—

“Sir Christopher Hatton, Knight, was the next person the Queen was pleased to pitch upon for the Great Seal of England, which was delivered to him on the 29th of April, 1587, in the 29th of her reign, with the title of Lord Chancellor: some were of opinion that this was not so much the Queen's own choice as that she was persuaded to it by some that wished Sir Christopher ill, that thereby he might be absent from the Court, and in expectation that such a sedentary life for a corpulent man, that had been used to exercise, would be a means to shorten his life, wherein they were not much mistaken.

“This gentleman was born at Holdenby, in Northamptonshire, but descended from an ancient family in Cheshire, deriving its pedigree from Nigel, Baron of Hatton, in that country. He was bred up to the Law in the Inns of Court, but more like a gentleman than one that pretended to raise himself by that profession. He was first taken notice of by the Queen for the comeliness of his person and his graceful dancing in a mask at Court, but more afterwards for his great abilities. He came first to be one of the Queen's Gentlemen Pensioners, then Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, and next Captain of the Guard, from which office he stepped to be Vice-Chamberlain and one of the Privy Council, and at last Lord Chancellor, with the addition of the Garter. He was one of those, when Vice-Chamberlain, that was delegated to try the Queen of Scots for her conspiracies against Queen Elizabeth.

“This gentleman had a large share of gifts and natural endowments; his features, his gait, his carriage, his parts and prudence, strove how to set him out. But as his abilities were much above his experience, so was this above his learning, and his learning above his education. What he did was

so exactly just and discreet, and what he spoke so weighty, that he was chosen to keep the Queen's conscience as her Chancellor and to express her sense as speaker. The courtiers, that envy all the last capacity, were by his power necessitated to confess their errors; and the serjeants that refused to plead before him at first could not but own his abilities. His place was above his law, but not above his parts, which were so very pregnant and comprehensive that he could command other men's knowledge to as good purpose as his own. And whereas 'tis said the civil law is sufficient to dictate equity, he made use of Sir Richard Swale, Doctor of the Civil Law, as a servant and friend, whose advice he followed in all matters of moment. His station was great, his despatches were quick and weighty, his orders many, yet all consistent, being very seldom reversed in Chancery and his advice opposed more seldom in Council. He was so just that his sentence was a law to the subject, and so wise that his opinion was an oracle to the Queen.

“However, Queen Elizabeth, who never forgave debts, calling upon him for an old one and rigorously insisting upon prompt payment, he was startled at it, because he could not do it at that time, and that backstroak went so close to his heart that it threw him into a mortal disease. The Queen, being indeed sorry for what she had done, endeavoured all she could to recover him, and brought him cordials with her own hands; but all would not do. And so he died a batchellor in the year 1591, and was buried under a stately monument, under the choir of St. Paul's.

“This gentleman had adopted Sir William Newport, his sister's son, to be his heir, who thereupon changed his name to Sir William Hatton; but in default of issue male by him he settled the greatest part of his estate upon his godson, Christopher Hatton, son and heir of John Hatton, his nearest kinsman of the male line, which Christopher, upon the death

of Sir William Newport, without issue male, did accordingly enjoy it, and was made Knight of the Bath at the coronation of King James I., from whom is descended the present Lord Viscount Hatton."

Sir Christopher made a valuable collection of books and manuscripts, which he presented to the library of Sir Robert Cotton.

The inscription on Hatton's monument which stands on the right side of the choir in St. Paul's Cathedral, and is ornamented with pyramids of marble and alabaster, runs thus:—

SACRED

TO THE MEMORY OF SIR CHRISTOPHER HATTON,
SON OF WILLIAM, GRANDSON OF JOHN, OF THE MOST ANCIENT FAMILY
OF THE HATTONS,
ONE OF THE 50 GENTLEMEN PENSIONERS OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN
ELIZABETH, GENTLEMAN OF THE PRIVY CHAMBER,
CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD,
ONE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL, AND HIGH CHANCELLOR OF ENGLAND,
AND OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD;
WHO, TO THE GREAT GRIEF OF HIS SOVEREIGN AND OF ALL GOOD
MEN, ENDED THIS LIFE RELIGIOUSLY AFTER HAVING LIVED
UNMARRIED TO THE AGE OF 51, AT HIS HOUSE IN HOLBORN ON THE
20TH OF NOVEMBER, A.D. 1591.

WILLIAM HATTON, KNIGHT, HIS NEPHEW BY HIS SISTER'S SIDE
AND BY ADOPTION HIS SON AND HEIR, MOST SORROWFULLY RAISED
THIS TOMB, A MARK OF HIS DUTY.

Stowe says that "four score Yeomen attended the funeral."

WORTHY YEOMEN.

A somewhat celebrated Yeoman of this reign was Cornelius van Dun, to whose memory a marble tablet is erected in

St. Margaret's church, by Westminster Abbey. He was a native of Breda, and died in the year 1577. He had been Yeoman Usher to Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, and died at the ripe old age of 94 years. He was the founder of some almshouses in York Street, Westminster, in which provision was made for twenty poor widows. The houses were pulled down in 1850. He also bequeathed to the poor of St. Margaret's, Westminster, £20.

Records of other Yeomen worthies of this reign are rather scarce. Here is one item of interest, however. In St. George's Chapel, Windsor, near the north door, lie the remains of George Brook, who died 24th October, 1593. A mural brass informs us that he was "a Yeoman of the Guard unto Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth."

It appears from an inscription on the brass that "out of a respect to the memory of the deceased and also to the honour and antiquity of the said Guard, this plate was repaired, enlarged, and engraven, at the sole charge of Edward Phillips, Citizen and Merchant Taylor, of London; and one of the 100 Yeomen of the Guard to King William III. and Queen Mary II. of blessed memory, and now to Her Majesty Queen Anne; in the sixth year of her reign, and the 52nd of his age, 1707."

The following is worthy of notice, inasmuch as certain Yeomen of the Guard figure in the affair in question:—

"At the Council Chamber, Westminster, 11th June, 1565.

"This day the quarrel and fray between the Earl of Ormond and Mr. Butler, his brother, and the Yeomen of the Guard, yesterday night at Westminster, was heard by the Lords of the Queen's Majesty's Privy Council, and thereupon their lordships upon the full understanding of the whole disorder * * * ordered that the said Earl and his brother should be sent to the Fleet [prison]. Edward Knight, Richard Jones, and Robert Gatton, three Yeomen of

the Guard, were this day committed to the prison of Marshalsea as principal offenders in the fray yesterday night."

It is recorded that all were discharged next morning.

And here is a final item from the Registers of this reign:—

"At Richmond, the 25th Feb. 1574.

"A son of Edward Ap Rees was murdered; he was one of the Queen's Guard."






ROBERT RAMPSTON, YEOMAN OF THE GUARD,

1585.

(From a Monumental Brass at Chingford.)

JAMES I.

1603 TO 1625.

N the accession of James I., the number of the Guard was again fixed at 200. Their pay was, on the intercession of the Captain, Sir Thomas Erskine, increased from 2*s.* to 2*s.* 4*d.* per day for the summer, and from 20*d.* to 2*s.* for the rest of the year. And he also got the year divided equally between summer and winter, instead of there being three months summer and the rest winter as formerly.

Prince Henry had twenty of the Yeomen told off to attend to him and act as his Body-guard at St. James's Palace. The King held his Court at Whitehall, and had six score of the Guard with him, three score belonged to the Queen and one score as above mentioned.

In the orders for the household of the Prince of Wales, dated at Richmond, 16th October, 1610, the following paragraphs relate to the Yeomen of the Guard:—

“That hereafter this may be observed in election of my Guard as places doe fall, that such men be recommended unto me for that service as are well known to be of honest conversation, and withall able and active men qualified with some perfection, as wrestling, tossing the pike, shooting in a musket, or skill on his weapons, and such-like activity, more

than to be able onely to wayte with a halberd in my great chamber, for I hold it fitting for the Court for a manly young prince to have such a select Guard of able bodyes as may match any other men for their number, in all manly exercises whatsoever, wherein I respect not so much the greatness of their stature as these other habilities aforenamed, so that withall they will be well shapt and comely personages, and amongst them to have some that have been either Lieutenants, Ancients, or Sargeants, in the warres, I specially allowe of.

“And that these places of my Guard be not traffickt or sould, but freely disposed of for meritt and sufficiency, for otherwise it must needs be a hindrance to my service to have them impoverished by purchasing their places in a mercinary manner, unworthie of a prince’s court that would be truly and worthily served.”

THE YEOMEN BED GOERS.

The special occupation of the Yeomen Bed Goers and the appropriateness of their name is seen in the subjoined extract from the Council Register :—

“At the Star Chamber, ult. of Nov. 1617.

“A warrant to the Lord Stanhope for payment to be made unto Wm. Hawkins, George Turner, and John Copping, 3 of the ordinary Yeomen of His Majesty’s Chamber, for the charges of themselves and their horses in attending on his Majesty’s bed, in his progress into Scotland and back, from the 10th of March last past until the 22nd of September following, being 198 days after, the rate of 2s. 6d. per diem to each of them.”

“At the Court at Whitehall, Sunday, 16th March, 1616.

“A warrant to the Lord Stanhope to pay unto Thomas Symcock and William Wannerton, two Yeomen Ushers of

his Majesty's Chamber, sent to view such houses as should be fit to entertain his Majesty, and also such towns and villages as should be convenient to lodge his Majesty's train in his progress into Scotland and return from thence, the sum of four score pounds for their charge, pains, expenses," &c.

The first search for Guy Faux was made at midnight, 4th November, 1605. The ceremony is fully described in the chapter relating to the reign of Queen Victoria.

The Household Books of James I. show that the Captain of the Guard had a gown which cost £14, but no fee. The Clerk of the Cheque was paid 2s. 6d. per day.



CHARLES I.

1625 TO 1649.



I CANNOT better begin this chapter than by transcribing the extracts I have made from the Household Book of King Charles I., preserved in the Record Office.

It is a handsome book of vellum, both leaves and cover, the latter ornamented with a gilt line all round, and the royal arms and initials as above. It is beautifully written in the "Italian hand," and the top of the first page is signed CHARLES R. The first letter is a German-text T with a shield (bearing the royal arms) in the centre. The letter is prettily illuminated in scarlet and gold.

ORDINANCES.

"To establish government & order in Our Court, which from whence may spread with more honor through all parts of our Kingdoms, We have collected theise Articles conformable to the ancient ordinances of Our house, and command

them to be duly observed in every point. Above stairs the Yeomen of Our Guard are to attend in Our Great Chamber as hath been accustomed. And because their service importeth not only the safety of Our person, but the honor of Our Court, We ordain that none hereafter be sworn and enrolled of that band that is not of tall personage, strong, active, and of manlie presence. And that such, according to Our prerogative, be chosen out of the servants of Our nobilities, or where els they may be found. And that they be freele placed and enjoyned to execute their service in person and not be excused by the attendance of extraordinary hired men as sometimes hath been done.

“The Yeomen Ushers and the Yeomen Waiters for the day shall be in the Great Chamber by six or seven of the clock in the morning to discharge the watch. The Usher to command a Yeoman to keep the doore and not to depart from the doore till the next waiter come to relieve him. And he that cometh last to keep it till Our board be taken downe after supper, &c.

“The Yeomen Ushers are to see that the Chamber be kept cleane & sweet; and that they cause the dore to be carefullie kept, not suffering any footemen or other meane persons to enter. * * *

“If there shall happen any disorder or quarrell among anie of Our servants in the Great Chamber the Clarke of the Cheque or the Yeomen Ushers in his absence are to discharge them of their attendance till the cause be heard and punished by the Lord Chamberlain.

“At Meals. The Yeomen of the Guard having brought up Our meate and performed their other services shall presentlie retire themselves into the Greate Chamber.

“The Captain of the Guard to be allowed to attend the Chapel in the Stalles.”

The ordinances were concluded by directing that they

should be read twice a year at Michaelmas and Shrovetide in the several rooms of the Court.

There are a few alterations in the manuscript, and these are verified in the margin by the King, who has initialed them with the letters *C.R.*

From the Council Register of 3rd June, 1626, I extract the following :—

“A warrant to Sir William Undale, Knight, Treasurer of his Majesty’s Chamber, to pay John Hoord, one of the Yeomen of His Majesty’s Chamber, for himself and eight others of his fellows Yeomen of the said Chamber, the somme of thirty-five pounds for their attendance upon the Duchesse de Chivereux, at Whitehall and Richmond twenty-four days, vizt. from the 16th of June until the 9th of July, 1625.”

During the time that the King was staying at Oxford the Privy Council ordered :—

“That as often as His Majesty did ride abroad the Captain of His Majesty’s Guard of Yeomen and the Lieutenant with four of the Gentlemen Pensioners should ride continually near His Majesty’s person and suffer no one of mean condition or unknown to them to come near him.”

In the third year of the reign of Charles I. the efficiency of the Guard was inquired into, and thirty of them, who, by reason of their age or ill-health, were considered unfit for service, were relieved of their personal attendance, but they were to receive their wages during their lives without deduction.

On the 26th November, 1637, the King was present at a Council at Whitehall, when his Majesty expressed his pleasure that several former orders for government of the Royal household, especially the orders made in the reign of Henry VIII., should be considered, and he appointed the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, the Lord High Treasurer, the Lord Privy Seal, and

others, to meet every Tuesday, beginning the 5th of December, 1637, and report thereon.

On 29th March, 1639, it was ordered "that Maundy be kept at York, where the King will be;" and, to prevent the poor resorting to Whitehall, the Lord Mayor of London was required to get notices to this effect given out in all the City churches. The Yeomen of the Guard performed their part of the ceremony as usual.

Under the date of 4th January, 1642, a contemporary chronicler records the unsuccessful attempt of Charles I. to arrest the Five Members at the House of Commons, on which occasion he was accompanied by his Guard of Pensioners and halberdiers. The next day the House resolved that "whereas His Majesty did the day before come to the House, attended with a great multitude of men armed in warlike manner with halberts, swords, and pistols, who came up to the very door of the House and placed themselves there and in other places and passages near to the House, to the great terror and disturbance of the members then sitting . . . and that the same was a high breach of the rights and privileges of Parliament." The House also determined to have a Guard of their own, in whom they could confide.

This is the last record of the appearance of the Body-guard of Charles I.; but they are known to have accompanied him to Hampton Court and York.

The following is the only extract that I can find that relates to arms or drill of the Guard during this reign, but it is significant of the desire of the King to maintain the efficiency of the Corps.

At Whitehall, 18th January, 1627, His Majesty being present in person to preside over his Council, it was ordered to the effect that whereas "the Gentlemen Pensioners were anciently expert and ready horsemen," but, by reason of "the want of use through a long security," it was doubted if they

would be found as skilful and fit as they should be, they were therefore to be drilled in horsemanship and in sword-and-pistol exercises."

Furthermore it was ordered that the Yeomen of the Guard should be armed with crosslets, pikes and muskets, and frequently exercised to the use of the same: which the Captain of the Guard was to see put in practice every week.

An entry like the following is a rarity :—

"Whitehall, 12th July, 1640.

"The King and Board dismissed one of His Majesty's Yeomen of the Guard in Ordinary on the information of the Deputy-Lieutenant of Berks for misbehaving, to the great prejudice and scandal of His Majesty's service; and the Earl of Morton, Captain of the Guard, was directed to dismiss the man and swear another in his place."

Later on it is recorded that the disgraced Yeoman was sent to the Star Chamber for trial.

The only Yeoman of any note in this reign is mentioned in the following extract and epitaph :—

"At Wingfield, in the county of Berks, a Yeoman of the Guard lies buried, and Ashmole says: 'In the east walls of the south aisle is set a plate of brass, whereon is engraved the figure of one of the Yeomen of the Guard in his coat, holding his halbert in his left hand, and his right giving a loafe of bread to two poore men.' Underneath is the following inscription :

HERE LYETH YE CORPS OF
THOMAS MOUNTAGUE,
BORNE IN THIS PARISH, WHERE ALSO HE DYED
31 MARCH 1630
WHEN HE HAD LIVED ALMOST 92 YEARS
AND HAD BEN A GOOD PARTE THEREOF A
YEOMAN OF THE GUARD
AND A FRIEND OF THE POORE.

CHARLES II.

1649 to 1685.

AFTER the death of Charles I. the Corps of the Yeomen of the Guard became all but extinct. A few were attached to Charles II. in his exile, but, when the Restoration became probable, the hopes of the Royalists revived, and when the King returned to England the glory of royalty was resumed with increased splendour. He had been preceded by the Earl of Norwich, Captain of the Guard, who got together the remnant of the old Guard, and had it in readiness to take part in the reception of the King. The Captain's name is included in the list of the noblemen who attended the King "in his low and wandering condition."

During the interregnum, that is, from 1649 to 1660, there is, of course, nothing to record respecting the Yeomen of the Guard; we read, however, that one of them, George Richardson, who was "loyal and faithful in the late evil times, was plundered, imprisoned, and quite ruined."

On the return of his Majesty to England the Corps of the Yeomen of the Guard was resuscitated, and was included in "the Order of his Majesty's Royal Proceeding through London on 29th May, 1660." Their place in the procession is indicated in the following extracts from the Official Programme :—

THE KING'S MAJESTIE.

THE GENTLEMEN PENTIONERS,
with their Poll-Axes, all afoote.

THE DUKE OF ALBEMARLE, Master of the Horse.

SIR GEORGE CARTERET, Vice-Chamberlain.

{ THE EARL OF CLEVELAND,	{ THE EARL OF NORWICH,
{ Captain of the Pentioners.	{ <i>Captain of the Guard.</i>

LORD VISCOUNT GRANDISON, Lieutenant of Pentioners.

THE GUARD, all on foote,
with Halberds.

And the same order of precedence was followed on the coronation day, 23 April, 1661.

The Yeoman Usher, under date of 22 April, 1661, makes note—

“Monday, 22nd. The King rode from the Tower through the City to Whitehall in order to coronation.”

“Tuesday, 23rd. Crowned in the Abbey, and dined in Westminster Hall. At night left to my charge the Globe and two Sceptres, rich with jewels, which I delivered to the Dean of Westminster, Doctor Earle.”

“4th March, 1660. At Whitehall.

“The Lords of the Council having made representations to His Majesty that there was a rumour spread abroad that divers persons in the King's service had not taken the usual oath, it was ordered that the Lord Steward and the Lord Chamberlain do see that the Royal servants under the respective jurisdictions do take anew the oath of allegiance or be dismissed.”

The Guard were accordingly all resworn. Further precautions appear to have been necessary, for we find under date 18th July, 1660. “Present, His Majesty in person. The Council ordered that the Lord Steward and the Lord Chamberlain should inform themselves, if any, who had formerly

served Oliver Cromwell, and were now disaffected to His Majesty, should be turned out. The Earl of Berkshire engaged to give the information."

ALL NIGHT.

The elaborate ceremonial for making the King's bed adopted in the reign of Henry VII. was again put in practice, and in connection therewith the following equally quaint ceremony was gone through daily. It was called "*The Service of All Night*," and the following account of what was done thereat is taken from a record of the proceedings made by Ferdinand Marsham, who was an Esquire of the Body to King Charles II. :—

"The Gentleman Usher Daily Waiter having the charge of constant attendance upon his Majesty until nine o'clock at night, called to the Yeoman Usher attending at the Guard Chamber Door for the Yeoman to attend him for *All Night* for the King. The Gentleman Usher went bareheaded, and the Yeoman to the pantry for bread, to the buttery for two flagons of beer, to the spicery for sugar, nutmeg, &c., to the wine-cellar for two great flagons of wine, and drank the King's health in both cellars, causing all to be uncovered, going back, and having a Groom of the Chamber carrying a lighted torch before the Gentleman Usher until he returned into the Presence Chamber, and lay all the services upon the cupboard there, and so deliver all to the Esquire of the Body and takes his leave.

"The Esquire then takes the inner keys and charge of *All Night*, calls to the Yeoman Usher or Clerk of the Cheque for the Roll of the Watch, and the Page of the Presence with a silver bason with a wax mortar and sizes attend the Esquire into the Privy Gallery. Then he takes the bason, &c., and carries it to the King's bed-chamber and stays until

His Majesty goes to bed, and then goes himself to bed under the state in the Presence Chamber in a pallet-bed sent up from the wardrobe.

“At eight o'clock in the morning there was the Esquire's breakfast usually brought up to the Waiter's chamber, where the Gentleman Usher attended with a Quarter Waiter to relieve and discharge him, and to take care of the daily waiting, and to see the Presence and other chambers sweet and clean. The breakfast was a good piece of boiled beef of fourteen pounds weight, with bread, beer, and wine and sundries, a boiled capon, and a piece of veal or mutton.”

There was a silk traverse hung up and drawn by the Page, and the chair turned and the Page lay on a pallet-bed without the traverse. The pallet-bed was a kind of truckle-bed on running castors, so that it could be moved about easily, and, if necessary, could be pushed under the King's bed.

In later days it was customary for the Exon in Waiting who had charge of the Guard to sleep on a bed of this kind before the door of the King's Bed-chamber, so that no one could enter without moving the bed and so waking him.

“After the Esquire of the Body had carried the mortar into the bed-chamber and received the word [watchword] of the King, with his treble [triple] key which the Esquire in Waiting always had, he locked the outward doors leading into the privy lodgings, and then went into the Guard Chamber and set the watch. He then returned to the Presence Chamber, where he lodged under the canopy, being the chief officer of that night.”

The Bed-chamber Orders for 1685 direct that the Esquire is to bring the mortar and receive the watchword.

The *Statutes of Eltham* (epitomised under the reign of Henry VIII.) provided that after *All Night* was served no one was to be permitted to come into the Presence

Chamber except the two gentlemen who slept in the Privy Chamber. It is to be observed that according to the *New Book of the Household of Edward IV.* (1478) *All Night* was served in a very similar manner in the reign of that monarch. From Candlemas to Michaelmas the ceremony (according to the Ordinances of 1478) took place "by daylight; and from Michaelmas to Candlemas by eight o'clock at farthest."

Before leaving this subject of *All Night* it will be well to explain that the *morter* mentioned in the ceremony is a night lamp, and was thus prepared:—"The Esquire takes from the cupboard a silver bason, and therein pours a little water, and then sets a round cake of virgin wax, in the middle of which is a nick of bumbast cotton, which being lighted burns as a match light at the King's bedside."

For by that morter which I see brenne,
Know I ful well that day is not far henne.

Troil. & Cres. book iv. line 1245.

At the regal State dinners in the reign of Charles II. it was the custom for one part of the Yeomen to bring in the dishes and retire as soon as dinner was served, and another party took post in the Presence Chamber.

In order to enable the King to live within his revenues the Council decreed, on 31 Jan. 1667, that there should be a reduction of half the wages paid to all the Officers and Servants of the Royal Household.

But this reduction was not a matter of very serious importance when it was impossible to get any pay at all.

Ways and Means were important matters in the reign of the "Merry Monarch," and the references in the Council Registers and the records of the time to the question of pay are numerous. The following are sufficient to indicate that the many attempts at retrenchment in the household

expenses were certainly needed. Still, in the face of these financial troubles we find the salary of the Captain of the Guard increased from a nominal honorarium to £1,000 a-year, and the Clerk of the Cheque received an increase from £20 to £150 per annum. A Lieutenant was appointed with a stipend of £500 a-year, an Ensign with £300, and four Exempts with £150. The number of the Guard was fixed at 100, with 6 Yeomen Hangers and 2 Yeomen Bed Goers.

Retrenchment being the order of the day in the King's Household, his Majesty in Council on 8th July, 1668, approved the scheme for reducing the number of Gentlemen Pensioners, but the numerical strength of the Yeomen of the Guard was not altered.

But the poor Yeomen could get no pay, and, on 4th January, 1668, it is recorded that they lodged a petition in the Council Chamber, upon which it was reported that "His Majesty, taking into consideration the great wants and necessities whereunto most of the petitioners are reduced, did order that it be referred and in an especial manner recommended to the Lords of the Treasury to take an effectual course that the petitioners may have some present supply, according to their respective arrears."

At this time there had been no salaries paid for nearly four years, and the royal servants offered £12 per cent. for immediate payment of their arrears of pay, but without any result, for the treasury was empty.

But to get rid of some of the complainants it was ordered, on 15th February, 1668, that Viscount Grandison, the Captain of the Guard, should, at the end of March, muster the whole of the Guard, and select from amongst them one hundred of the most likely "to give their continual attendance upon His Majesty's person; these to form a new establishment, and the remainder to be employed as His Majesty's servants in other capacities."

The result of these recommendations was the new establishment referred to in the following extracts from the Council Register :—

“ 29 October, 1669. At Whitehall.

“ Whereas the Right Honble. the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury did this day humbly offer to His Majesty in Council the ensuing establishment of the Yeomen of the Guard of His Majesty's Body as to their Officers, number, and respective pay, as followeth (vizt.) :

“ That there be one Captain of the said Guard at the yearly pay of £1,000.

“ A Lieutenant at £500 per ann.

“ An Ensign at £300 per ann.

“ A Clerk of the Cheque at £150.

“ Four Corporals, each at £150 per ann.

“ One hundred Yeomen in daily waiting, each at £30 per ann.

“ Seventy Yeomen not in waiting, each at £15 per ann.

Which said several sums amount in the whole unto £6,600 yearly.

“ And when any of the said number of one hundred die that their places be filled up out of the seventy not in waiting, and that if any of the seventy die that no more be admitted in their rooms.

“ Which establishment the King accepted, and directed the Captain of the Guard to remodel the Band accordingly.

“ The names of the Officers of the Yeomen of the Guard of his Majesty's body :—

“ George Lord Viscount Grandison Captain

“ Colonel Thomas Howard . . . Lieutenant

“ Edward Sackvill, Esqr. . . . Ensign

“ Richard Smith Clerk of the Cheque

" Hugh Houghton	Corporal
" Roger Gardner	Corporal
" Edmund Ashton	Corporal
" Richard Sadlington	Corporal."

Then follow the names of 100 Yeomen and 70 "not in daily waiting."

CHARLES II. AT LINCOLN'S INN.

The "Merry Monarch" was undoubtedly in a merry mood after dining with the Lincoln's Inn lawyers, on 29th February, 1671, as witness the following account, taken from the books of the Inn. It will be observed that the students usurped the functions of the Guard by serving at the King's table.

It is rather significant that amongst the then elected barristers is the name of Andrew Killegrew, the King's jester.

"THE ADMITTANCE BOOKE OF LINCOLNES INNE.

"Whearin his most excellent Majestie, his Royall Highnesse the Duke of Yorke, his Highnesse Prince Rupert, and many lords and honourable persons, have entred their names with their owne hands the nine and twentieth day of February, Anno Domini 1671.

"A narrative of the King's Majesties reception and enter-tenment att Lincolne's Inn the nyne and twentieth day of February, one thousand six hundred and seaventy-one.

"Sir Francis Goodericke, Knight, one of his Majesties learned Councill-att-law, and Solicitor-Generall to his Royal Highnesse the Duke of Yorke, being Reader of this Society of Lincolnes Inn for the Lent reading in the year 1671, having invited the King, his Royal Highnesse, and Prince Rupert,

and diverse of the nobilitie, to dine in Lincolnes Inne Hall, on such day of his reading as his Majestie should make choice off, his Majestie was pleased to appoint Thursday, the nine and twentieth of February, 1671; and accordingly that day his Majestie, together with his said Royal Highnesse and his Highnesse Prince Rupert, being also attended by the Duke of Monmouth, the Duke of Richmond, the Earles of Manchester, Bath, and Anglesea, the Lord Viscount Halifax, Lord Bishop of Ely, Lord Newport, Lord Henry Howard, and divers others of great qualitie, came to Lincolnes Inne. His Majestie made his entrance thro' the garden, att the great gate opening into Chancery Lane, next to Holborne, where Mr. Reader and the rest of the benchers and associates waited his coming, and attended his Majestie up to the Tarras Walke, next the field, and soe through the garden, the trumpetts and kettle-drums, from the leads over the highest bay-window in the middle of the garden building, sounding all the while. And from the garden his Majestie went to the new councell chamber, the barristers and students, in their gownes, standing in a rowe on each side, between the garden and the councell chamber. After a little rest his Majestie viewed the chapell, returning agayne to the councell chamber; from thence as soon as his table (being placed upon the ascent att the upper end of the hall and railed in) was furnished, his Majestie was brought into the hall, where his Majestie sat under his canopy of state, being served by the Reader as sewer upon his knee with the towel before he did eat, his Royal Highnesse sitting att the end of the table, on his right hand, and Prince Rupert att the other end.

“The dukes and lords and other his Majesties attendants of qualitie, after some short tyme of waiting, had leave from his Majestie to sitt downe to dinnar, att tables prepared for them on each side of the hall. The Reader and some of the

benchers, to witt, Sir Thomas Beverley, Master of Requests to his Majestie, Sir Robert Adkins, Knight of the Bath, all the time of his Majesties dining waiting neere his Majesties chairs, and four other of the benchers, Mr. Day, Mr. Pedley, Mr. Stote, and Mr. Manby, with white staffes, waited as contrrollers of the hall to keep good order; and about fifty of the barristers and students, the most part of them attending as waiters and carrying up his Majesties meat, which was served upon the knee, the rest of the barristers and students waiting upon the lords att their table. The three courses, wherein were exceeding great plenty and variety of dishes, and after them a most liberal banquet, was served up by the said barristers and students, and delivered by them upon their knees att the King's table, the music, consisting of his Majesties violins, playing all the tyme of dinnar in the gallery att the lower end of the hall. Towards the end of dinnar, his Majestie, to doe a transcendant honour and grace to this Society, and to expresse his most gracious acceptance of their humble duty and affection towards him, was pleased to command the booke of admittances to be brought to him; and with his owne hand entered his royal name therein, most graciously condescending to make himself a member thereof, which high and extraordinary favour was instantly acknowledged by all the members of this Society then attending on his Majestie with all possible joy, and received with the greatest and most humble expressions of gratitude, itt being an example not preceded by any former King of this realme; his Royal Highnesse and Prince Rupert followed this great and highest example, as also the dukes and other lords, who before his Majesties rising from dinnar borrowed gownes of the students and put them on, and in those gownes waited on his Majestie, with which his Majestie was much delighted. And his Majestie, thro' his owne most obliging favour, vouchsafed to itt, having made himselfe more neerly

and intimately concerned for the good of this Society, was pleased himselfe to begin a health to the welfare thereof, and to cause itt to be pledged in his owne presence, immediately gave the Reader leave to drink his Majesties health, and to begin to his Royal Highnesse. Then, rising from dinnar, he was agayne attended to the new councell chamber, where he conferred the honour of knighthood on Mr. Nicholas Pedley and Mr. Richard Stote, two of the benchers who had in their turns beene Readers of this house, as also upon Mr. James Butler, one of the barristers, and Mr. Francis Dayrell, one of the students, that soe each degree and order of the Society might have a signall testimony of his Majesties high favour. His Majestie upon his departure made large expressions of his most gracious acceptance of the enterteynment, and returned his thanks to the Reader, and was pleased to signify the great respect and esteem he should ever have for the Society.

“The Gentlemen of the Horse Guards, Yeomen of the Guard, and other inferior attendants, were bountifully enterteyned att the costs and charges also of the Reader. The Gentlemen of the Horse Guards dined in the old councell chamber; the Yeomen of the Guards in Mr. Day’s chamber; and the coachmen and lacquies in the gardener’s house, to all their contentment.

“On Saturday following, Mr. Reader, Sir Robert Atkins, Sir Nicholas Pedley, and Sir Richard Stote, Benchers and Readers of Lincolne’s Inn, waited on his Majestie at Whitehall, being conducted to his Majesties presence by the Earle of Bath, and gave most humble thanks for that high and transcendant honour he had beene pleased to vouchsafe to this Society, which was graciously received by his Majestie, and he did the said Benchers the honour to kiss his hand.”

In 1675 the Guard were in a poor plight. They could not get their pay, and in order to reduce expenses the Lord

Steward cut off their allowance of diet. Whereupon they petitioned the King in Council, and explained that although they had recently had £10 a year struck off their wages they were now required to give up their daily rations, and by reason of the reduction in number had to work longer. The King said it was never his intention to strike off the diet, and it was referred to the Duke of Ormond to set the matter right in accordance with His Majesty's wishes.

On the 18th June, 1675, a Petition was presented to the King, which is interesting as indicating the treatment accorded to the old Guard of Charles I. during the inter-regnum which followed the death of that monarch.

"18 June, 1675.—Petition of Mary Richardson, widow of late George Richardson, one of the Yeomen of the Guard, setting forth that there was due to her late husband £107 9s. 8d. for salary, and £85 for liveries, in all £192 9s. 8d. That her said husband was always loyal, faithful, and serviceable to his late Majesty, for which he was plundered, imprisoned, and quite ruined in the late evil times, and could leave his widow and children nothing but the above £192 9s. 8d." The Petition was referred to the Treasury for favourable consideration.

PRIVILEGES.

Amongst the privileges claimed by the servants of the King, that of exemption from performing any parochial offices seems to have been a prominent one. Repeated applications were made to the Council for protection from arrest for neglecting to perform "watch and ward." On 8th May, 1663, in regard to one of these petitions, the King said that he "doth not take it well that his servants should be so required to serve in parochial matters, and ordered their exemption." The royal mandate, however, does not appear

to have been acted upon, for on 4th February, 1680, we find that James Trumbull and others of the Yeomen of the Guard were indicted in the Crown Office and at Westminster Sessions for not serving as watches, thereby being prevented from attending to their duties in his Majesty's household. The King considered that in "respect of their painful and continual attendance" on him both day and night they should be exempted from parochial watching, &c., and directed the Attorney-General to put a stop to the proceedings.

On 22nd October, 1680, a draft Order was read at the Council Board for preserving the ancient privileges of the Yeomen of the Guard. Considerable importance was attached to the matter, for it appears that it was referred to the Law Officers to call in the assistance of His Majesty's Counsel learned in the law to consider the draft Order and examine into privileges and report thereon. Exemption was claimed from all public and parish offices and duties, from serving on juries or in the militia, and from working on the highways.

UNIFORM.

The uniform during this reign is thus described:—

"The coat or tunic reaches below the knee, and has a capacious sleeve descending to the wrist. Buskins or short boots were worn, and afterwards shoes and scarlet stockings."

The stockings appear to have varied in colour, being blue, red, grey, or white.

The hats were made of black fluted velvet, low crowned, flat brim, ornamented with a band of coloured ribbons, red, white, and dark blue, tied up in bows and fastened on a plaited cord.

In the last year of the reign of King Charles II.—on 1st October, 1684—His Majesty held a review on Putney Heath, in which the "State Guards" took part. They numbered 100 with 15 Ushers.

The custom of carrying the body of the King to the grave was resumed at the funeral of Charles II. Here-
tofore, since the death of Henry VII., the Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber had performed the office, but the coffin of Charles II. was found to be too heavy for the Gentlemen, and required men of more robust habit. The Yeomen of the Guard were therefore called in to perform the mournful service; and they have carried the coffin at all subsequent royal funerals down to the time of the funeral of Princess Charlotte, on which occasion it is recorded that one of the Yeomen stumbled and hurt himself, and the custom was afterwards discontinued.





LIEUTENANT AND ENSIGN, 1685.

JAMES II.

1685 to 1688.

AT the coronation of James II. and his Queen, which took place at the Abbey on 23rd April, 1685, the whole of the Yeomen of the Guard were on duty, and 100 of them with their Officers were in the procession. Fortunately the details of this grand coronation are preserved in the pages of Sandford's fine account of the proceedings; and as the whole of the procession has been accurately engraved we are able to get a very good idea of the appearance of the Guard at that time. Turning to the part that interests us most Sandford tells us that—

The Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, George Villiers, Viscount Grandison (an Irish peer), marched immediately in rear of the King's train-bearers. Near him on the right hand was the Duke of Northumberland, Captain of His Majesty's troops of Horse Guards, who had on his right hand the Earl of Huntingdon, Captain of the Gentlemen Pensioners. Then came the Gentlemen of the Bed Chamber, and next—

The Lieutenant of the Yeomen of the Guard, Thomas Howard, Esquire; and on his left the Ensign of the Yeomen of the Guard, Henry Dutton Colt, Esquire. (*See engraving.*)

“Then followed the four Corporals or Exans (*sic*), namely, Robert Sayers, Esquire, William Haughton, Esquire, William Barlow, Esquire, Thomas Orme, Esquire, leading the Yeomen of his Majesties Guard of his Body, being in number 100. They marched four abreast with partizans on their shoulders (for none of them carried carabines that day). Their coats were of red broad cloth with large sleeves gathered at the shoulder and wrists, full deep skirts, also gathered at the waste, with large breeches of the same, guarded with thick black velvet an inch in breadth. Upon their breasts and backs was embroidered, embossed, and enriched with silver plate gilt, the Rose and Crown, with His Majesty’s cipher, J. R., and underneath on a scroll of gold the King’s motto, *Dieu et Mon Droit* in black letters.

“Their bonnets were of black velvet, banded with white, crimson, and blue ribbon, interwoven with large knots of the same; with grey worsted stockings and waste-belts of buff. (*See accompanying engraving.*)

“Charles Villiers, Esquire, a younger son of the Viscount Grandison, being absent, Mr. Thomas Coleman, Deputy Clerk of the Checque, was ordered to march in the rear, and closed the procession.”

27 November, 1685.—The Petition of John King, who had been dismissed from his attendance as a Yeoman of the Guard, petitioned the King in Council to be restored, and the matter was referred to the Board of Green Cloth for consideration and report.

The Corps was somewhat disorganised about this time, and there were several men dismissed. As there was a difficulty in getting money to pay the Guard it was ordered on 15th January, 1686, that the 70 Yeomen on half-pay should be continued and paid quarterly like the Yeomen in waiting from the commencement of his Majesty’s reign.

The following remarkable note is added:—

“Arrears to be paid out of impositions on tobacco and



YEOMEN OF THE GUARD, 1685.

sugar imported between 24th June, 1685, and 24th June, 1693."

The 30th of October, 1685, was the bicentenary of the formation of the Guard, but there does not appear to have been any special celebration of the day. Perhaps as the men could not get their pay there was little cause for rejoicing.

The Ordinances of the previous reign were re-issued with scarcely any alteration except that it was thereby ordered that forty of the Yeomen of the Guard should be constantly in attendance on the King when he went abroad as well as when he was at home, and the officers of the Household and Yeomen of the Guard were to be sworn to obey all orders coming from the Lord Chamberlain or Vice Chamberlain.

The King left the country on 11th December, 1688, and in the February following the Prince of Orange ascended the throne.



WILLIAM III. AND MARY II.

1689 TO 1702.

WILLIAM the Third had only been on the throne a few weeks when it was found to be necessary to weed out some of the aged and infirm members of the Guard and to fill their places with younger men. As usual, this gave rise to a good deal of discontent, especially as no provision had been made for pensioning the men whom the Captain of the Guard thought it necessary to dismiss. Consequently, on the 27th June, 1689, a petition to the King was lodged by three members on behalf of themselves and many other members of the Guard whom the Earl of Manchester, the Captain, had divested of their liveries and removed from their places. The petition alleged "that they as well as their predecessors were admitted to their places for life, and that none (till then) were ever turned out of their said places at the will of their Captain. That only in the third year of the reign of King Charles I. thirty of the Yeomen of his then Guard, being found unfit for service by reason of their age and indisposition of health, were put by of their personal attendance, yet nevertheless were allowed their wages, without check, during their lives, as by Privy Seal appears." The petitioners further alleged that, "forasmuch as they had purchased their said places with the expense of their whole fortunes, and were depending on the same as an estate for

life, and it being also the only support for themselves and families, petitioners must inevitably perish through want unless remedied therein by the accustomed princely care and goodness of his Majesty."

The Earl reported to the Council that the office of Yeoman of the Guard was not a freehold for life, but only to be held during the King's pleasure. And with regard to the allegation that the petitioners would perish through want unless relieved, the Captain stated that the dismissed men had competent estates, trades, or other good employments. There was nothing more heard of the petition.

On 18th April, 1689, an Order in Council was made directing that £1000 should be added to the cost of the establishment of the Yeomen of the Guard, to provide a pension for Lord Grandison, late Captain of the Guard.

PRIVILEGES.

The right of exemption from public and parish duties was constantly contested by the parochial authorities, and to bring the matter to an issue some members of the Guard were indicted in the Crown Office and at the Sessions for refusing to take their turn at "watching and warding." On this being reported to the Privy Council on 13th May, 1692, their lordships directed a stop to be put to the proceedings, and ordered that in future on complaint to the Attorney-General of similar indictments he should stop all proceedings against His Majesty's servants in accordance with the Orders in Council of 8th May, 1663, and 22nd October, 1675, wherein the privileges of servants of the Royal Household are set forth. This seems to have settled the matter for a few years, but on 14th May, 1669, the officers of the Guard found it necessary to memorialize the Board against being compelled to serve in parochial offices, and the Attorney-General had again to interfere.

The principal alteration in the Ordinances in this reign was that the Guard had their table abolished and they were put upon "board wages."

MOURNING UNIFORM.

By an Order in Council, dated 4th January, 1694, it was directed that the Yeomen of the Guard and Yeomen Warders of the Tower should have livery-coats of mourning to attend the funeral of Queen Mary. It was also directed that "the badges now worn upon their coats be taken off and put upon their mourning-coats, and that the coats which they now wear be carefully laid up till the time of mourning be past, and that the Captain do take particular care herein." The Earl of Dorset, the Lord Chamberlain, was authorized to issue his warrant for the liveries accordingly.



ANNE.

1702 TO 1714.



QUEEN ANNE was crowned on the 23rd of April, 1702. The Yeomen and their Officers occupied their customary places in the processions, and the usual festivities were held.

Amongst the first petitions presented to Her Majesty was one from the Yeomen of the Guard praying that they might have the benefit of their ancient privilege of exemption from parochial duties, and that the actions which had been brought against some of them might be put a stop to. The prayer of the petition was granted, and the Attorney-General was directed to get the actions stayed.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

In the year 1704, during the captaincy of the Marquis of Hartington, the Guard, with his lordship's cordial approbation, established a Benevolent Fund by subscribing ten shillings each, and they agreed to renew the subscription on the death of any member of the Corps. The money so subscribed was given to the widow, children, or representative of the deceased member. Each successive Captain being equally pleased with the appropriation of the Fund, the custom has continued to the present time.

SALE OF OFFICES.

On the 3rd September, 1711, at a Council at which the Queen was present, it was declared that the selling of offices and places in Her Majesty's Household (which was then said to be prevalent) was highly dishonourable to Her Majesty, prejudicial to her service, introductive of corruption and extortion, and a discouragement to virtue and true merit. The Queen expressed her intention of preventing the practice in future. The collection of the customary fees allowed by order of Edward VI. was sanctioned, and the Guard were enabled to receive their fees as theretofore.

"Good Queen Anne," as the people affectionately called her, was constantly taking part in public proceedings, and the Yeomen of the Guard became quite a familiar sight in the streets of London. Seven times Her Majesty went in procession to St. Paul's Cathedral to return thanks for victories over her enemies, and her brief but eventful reign was a great contrast to those immediately succeeding.

The Council which was summoned on the demise of the Queen, 5th August, 1714, ordered "that Lord Paget, the Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, do give directions for putting one hundred of the Guard into mourning," and the badges on their clothes were to be removed and put on the mourning garments.


The Guard were ordered to attend the removal of Her Majesty's body from Kensington to the west gate of the Abbey of Westminster.

During this reign it was customary at the banquet after the installation of the Knights of the Garter that the table of the Sovereign should be served by the Gentlemen Pensioners, while the Yeomen attended to the Knights' table.




GEORGE I.

1714 TO 1727.

N the accession of George I., on the 1st August, 1714, the Council directed the Board of Green Cloth to continue the expenditure for the Royal Household as before, and the Yeomen of the Guard were to be maintained on the old footing. A few months after, that is, on 6th December, 1714, an order was issued by the Council notifying that the household servants were to be exempt from parochial duties, and have all ancient privileges confirmed; and, to prevent the commencement of law proceedings against any of the said servants who should decline to perform parochial duties if required, it was directed that copies of the order should be kept by Clerks of the Peace, "to the intent that due obedience may be given thereunto, and His Majesty's servants may not be vexed with unreasonable prosecutions." The King was in his fifty-fourth year when he ascended the throne, and the Court, rendered dull by dissensions and estrangement in the royal family, began to lose much of its former brilliancy. Pageants and spectacles were few and far between, and beyond acting as household servants there was little or nothing for the Guard to do; they were seldom seen, and the appointments to the Corps were bestowed with less regard to appearance and character than formerly.

GEORGE II.

1727 TO 1760.

 IN 1740 an Exon who did not turn up at the appointed time to relieve his brother officer was fined 10s. per day by order of the Earl of Essex, the Captain.

When the King went to Hanover in 1743 to take command of the army there, he took with him six Yeomen Bed Hangers and the two Yeomen Bed Goers, the former to look after the camp equipage and the latter to take care of the beds and bedding. Pegge, in his *Curialia*, Part III., says, on the authority of one of the said Yeomen, that they were prepared to erect the tents, to have fixed the hangings, and to have placed the bed, but the pavilion was not erected. They, however, set up the King's bed at all the places where he stopped for the night during his progress. They also performed their ordinary duties as Guards, and carried their partizans, though when performing their other duties they carried the carbine.

The daily allowance of food for the thirty men who mounted guard every day at St. James's was—

24lbs. beef, 18lbs. mutton, 16lbs. of veal. In all, 58lbs. of meat weighed out before the Yeomen's Messenger.

2lbs. of butter, 36 loaves (? 2lbs. each), 37 gallons of beer—an extra gallon being allowed in summer time. Sufficient vegetables of the best in season, salt, pepper, oil, vinegar, and mustard, and three plum puddings every Sunday.

The dinner was served in the Royal kitchen, in two servings, one for each Guard.

There was an extra allowance of venison twice a year, and five geese at Michaelmas.

The Yeomen's room was supplied with an ample allowance of linen and crockery.

When all the Guard were on duty together, which always happened on the birthdays of the King and Queen, the allowance was 216lbs. of meat (beef, mutton, and veal), 6lbs. of butter, 144 loaves, 104 gallons of beer, and 20 dozen quarts of wine.

On the birthdays of members of the Royal Family, and on other occasions when the guns were fired in celebration, there was a double allowance of bread, 18 gallons of beer extra, and 5 dozen quarts of wine. These were called Pitcher Days.

When the Sovereign opened Parliament, and on Accession Day and on Coronation Day, the extras were 28 loaves of bread, 18 gallons of beer, and 5 dozen of wine.

All these allowances are now discontinued, and the Yeomen are on board wages of 3s. 9d. per day.

9th Nov. 1760.—At seven o'clock this night six of the Yeomen of the Guard carried the bowels of his late Majesty George II. from Kensington Palace to the body coach. Six other Yeomen who were on duty at Westminster Abbey received and carried the bowels for burial in the Royal vault of Henry VII.'s Chapel. The following night twelve of the Yeomen carried the body of the late King from Kensington Palace to the hearse. At Westminster thirty-nine of the Guard were present to receive the coffin, and twelve of them carried it into the Prince's Chamber.

On Tuesday, 11th Nov. fifteen of the Guard carried the body from the Prince's Chamber to the vault in Henry VII.'s Chapel.

A YEOMAN BOXER.

In the tomb with Roger Monk, in the western walk of the Cloisters of Westminster Abbey (further referred to in the reign of George IV.), there is also buried John Broughton, another celebrated Yeoman of the Guard, who died 8th January, 1789. Though there is no indication of the fact on the marble tablet or on the gravestone, it is nevertheless true that this is the final resting-place of the First Champion Boxer, "Jack" Broughton. Historians describe him as "the father of the noble art of self-defence," and he was at the height of his fame in this reign. An anecdote is told of him that his Royal patron, the Duke of Cumberland, took him to Berlin, amongst other places, and, showing him the much-vaunted Grenadier Guards, asked him what he thought of "a set-to" with some of them. Broughton is said to have replied that he would have no objection to take the whole regiment if he were only allowed a breakfast between each two battles.

His biographers invariably speak of him as having been a man of sense and ability, and he certainly appears to have been a great favourite with the King, the royal Princes, and the nobility.

He was 86 years old when he died, and had for a long time been one of the Ushers of the Yeomen of the Guard.

The Yeoman Boxer was an exceptionally well-built man, with such an extraordinary development of muscle that the celebrated Belgian sculptor, Michael Rysbrack, got him to sit as a model for the arms of his statue of Hercules.






YEOMAN OF THE GUARD,

1785.

GEORGE III.

1760 TO 1820.

EW uniforms and partizans were issued to the whole of the Guard and also to the Tower Warders for the coronation of George III. as appears from the following warrant:—

“29th May, 1761.—Warrant for Apparel and Partizans for Yeomen of Guard.

“A copy of an Extraordinary Warrant, to the Master of the Great Wardrobe, to provide Apparel and Partizans, &c. for the Yeomen of the Guard and Warders of the Tower, delivered at the Wardrobe, 2nd of June, 1761.

“Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Councillor,—We greet you well, and will and command you forthwith to deliver or cause to be delivered unto our right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin and Councillor Hugh, Lord Viscount Falmouth, Captain of the Yeomen of our Guard and Warders of our Tower of London, or unto Savile Cockayne Cust, Esq., Clerk of the Cheque to the same, these parcels following, that is to say, one hundred and forty coats of fine crimson in grain cloth, lined with blue serge and guarded with blue velvet, edged and lined with gold lace, with rose, thistle, and crown, mottoes and scrowles, with our letters G. R. embroidered on back and breast of each coat, with silver spangles gilt, for one hundred Yeomen of our Guard

and forty Warders of our Tower of London, and one hundred and forty pair of like crimson cloth breeches guarded with velvet and laced with gold lace; one hundred and forty black velvet bonnets, with crimson, white, and blue ribbands; one hundred and forty pair of grey worsted rowling stockings; one hundred and forty basket-hilted swords with brass hilts and silver handles, double gilt; one hundred and forty partizans chased and gilt, with cowls of crimson, skye colour, and white silk; and sixteen more partizans chased and ornamented as aforesaid, of a shorter and less size, being more commodious to be used by our aforesaid Guard when they attend the Royal chairs; one hundred and forty waistbelts, and one hundred carbine belts, guarded with blue velvet and gold lace; one hundred and forty pair of buck gloves, and £140 sterling, to be also delivered to the said Savile Cockayne Cust for watch gowns for them; with two large cart canvas wrappers, and a large Bible bound in rough leather for the use of our Warders in the Tower of London.

“The said apparel to be put on and wore, on the day of Our Coronation, and for so doing this shall be your warrant and discharge.

“Given under our signet at the Palace of St. James’s this 29th day of May, 1761, in the first year of Our Reign.

“By His Majesty’s command,

“BUTE.

“To our Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Councillor, Granville Leveson, Earl Gower, Master of our Great Wardrobe, or his Deputy.”

“August 25, 1761.—Received the Yeomen’s Clothes, &c., with one hundred shoulder-belts, from the Great Wardrobe, and delivered them the same day to the Yeomen at St. James’s, who wore them on His Majesty’s Wedding Day, the 8th of September, 1761.”

NEW UNIFORMS.

The Officers formerly renewed their uniforms every third year, and those for the men were issued annually on the birthday of the Sovereign.

The alterations in the uniform were very slight. The shamrock was added to the badge on the union of Ireland with Great Britain on 1st January, 1801.

White stockings were ordered on 26th July, 1763, and there is an order on the books requiring the men invariably to wear a wig with one curl when on duty.

The Earl of Aylesford ordered rosettes of red leather, to be worn on the shoes of the Officers, instead of buckles, and they wore them till the introduction of the modern uniform, after the accession of George IV.

THE TER-CENTENARY.

His Lordship, who was Captain of the Guard on the occasion of the ter-centenary of the foundation of the Guard—30th October, 1785,—gave three prizes, to be shot for with the bow and arrow. The first prize was 20 guineas, the second 10 guineas, and the third 5 guineas. The contest took place on 3rd September; but, as might have been expected, there was not much skill displayed, as archery had become quite obsolete; still the contest gave the men an opportunity of meeting and celebrating the occasion.

A Prince was born at St. James's Palace, 21st August, 1765; and in anticipation of the event the Guard were on duty in increased strength, and they were present at the christening, which took place on 18th September following.

The trial of the Duchess of Kingston took place in Westminster Hall on the 13th of April, 1776, and following days. It is recorded that "the Yeomen were thus disposed: 12 in the Court of Requests, 12 between the throne and passage,

4 in the Court, 2 at the door behind the prisoner, 2 at Lords' entrance-door, and 2 at the head of stairs. The Board of Green Cloth declined to allow more than 2*s.* 6*d.* per day, and the Captain directed that each man should have an extra 1*s.* 6*d.* per day out of the Stock-purse. The Officers' bill for five days amounted to £34 1*s.* 7*d.*"

10th April, 1810.—The Metropolis was in a great state of excitement consequent upon the Sir Francis Burdett riots. The Yeomen on duty at St. James's were supplemented by a detachment of the Foot Guards, and they occupied the Queen's Guard-room. "The Yeomen had a fire in the Privy Chamber and carried their beds into that room."

THE YEOMEN IN THE CITY.

Lord Mayor's Day, 1761.—All the Yeomen of the Guard and twenty-four of the Tower Warders attended the King and Royal Party to the Guildhall, where they were entertained by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London. The Officers of the Guard were on horseback, "then followed the Ensign, 2 Exons, then 3 Ushers; after them the tallest Yeomen, 4 and 4; then the shorter ones, 4 and 4. The Tower Warders were similarly sized and arranged. Then came 2 Exons on horseback, and there were 2 tall Yeomen on each side of the King's coach, and 4 Yeomen by the side of the Princess Dowager's coach. The Lieutenant being in charge of Prince William and Prince Henry did not attend. Five Yeomen were on guard at St. James's Palace and 2 at Leicester House." Their Majesties left St. James's at noon and returned at two o'clock the next morning.

On Royal birthdays it was customary at this time to summon the whole of the Guard. The assembly was fixed for eleven o'clock, and late comers were fined half-a-crown and absentees one guinea.

THE STOCK-PURSE.

Fines of all kinds were put into the Stock-purse, the contents of which were drawn upon to pay the By-waits and to make up proper allowances when otherwise deficient. The fines must have been numerous, for we constantly find instances where the Board of Green Cloth would only allow the men part of what was considered by the Captain to be a fair allowance.

The benevolent patriotism of the Corps is testified by the fact that on 24th April, 1798, when there was a threat of an invasion by the French, they contributed £162 15s. to the public subscription which was started by the Governors of the Bank of England towards the defence of the country.

The current Order Book of the Corps commences with a number of orders, without date, and apparently copied into the book at the same period of time. The first signed order bears the name of Lord Torrington, the Captain in 1746. There is no reference to any earlier Order Book, and it is conjectured that it must have been destroyed in the fire referred to in the next paragraph.

THE FIRE AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE.

A fire broke out at St. James's Palace on 21st January, 1809, which raged with great fury and did serious damage. It was a long time before it was mastered. The Guard worked well, and were able to alarm the Duke of Cambridge in time to enable him to escape; but his apartments were entirely destroyed. They also managed to save many valuable relics, books, pictures, and furniture, and ably assisted the firemen; but it was known that many objects of interest were destroyed, and amongst them much curious armour, old weapons, and, in all probability, the Order Book and the ancient Standard of the Guard. The interior of the Palace—

from Marlborough House to the first southern turret, including the armoury—were entirely destroyed. The flames must have been immense; for it is recorded that they were seen from Staines, “and it was fancied there that all London was on fire.”

The Guard received the thanks of the Lord Chamberlain for their alacrity on the occasion, and the circumstance is recorded in the Order Book.

A characteristic anecdote is told of His Majesty, which will especially interest Yeomen of the Guard:—

THE BEEFEATER'S BOY.

On the return of the King and Queen from Windsor in October, 1785 (just a century ago), their post-chaise stopped at the door of St. James's Palace, where a crowd soon assembled to see their Majesties alight, and amongst them was a fine little boy, who had been newly breeched that day. The King, noticing the happy look on the boy's face, stopped and said to him, “And whose boy are you?” To which the lad replied, “My father is the King's Beef-eater.” “Then,” said the King, “down on your knees, and you shall have the honour of kissing the Queen's hand.” “Oh, no!” said the boy, “I won't kneel down: for I shall dirt my new breeches.” The reply so pleased the King and Queen that they gave the boy five guineas.

4th June, 1808.—Captain Earl Macclesfield announced that as the Yeomen had been deemed not to be included in the exemption of other Guards from hair-powder duty, they should be reimbursed at the Lord Chamberlain's Office any sum paid therefor.

On the occasion of the Jubilee in 1809 the Yeomen joined the rest of the Household servants in the celebration, part of them being at Windsor and the rest at St. James's.

The custom of the Guard dining at the Palace was

abolished by a Treasury Order in 1813. The Lord Chamberlain, Lord Cholmondeley, addressing the Earl of Macclesfield, the Captain, said that "The Lords of the Treasury having directed his attention to the expense of the establishment of the Board of Green Cloth and to the Table at St. James's, suggested that a pecuniary compensation might with propriety and justice be made to the Yeomen of the Guard, in lieu of their food." The result was that the Ushers thereafter received 5*s.* 3*d.* per day and the men 3*s.* 9*d.* table-money.

The Yeomen of the Guard discontinued carrying the dishes to the royal table in this reign.

At an installation of six Knights of the Garter in 1805 the fees paid to the Guard, numbering 23, amounted to £37 10*s.*, which was equal to £1 11*s.* 3*d.* each in the 1st Division of 12 men and £1 14*s.* each in the 2nd Division of 11 men.

28th May, 1813.—The Duke of Newcastle and the Earl of Lonsdale paid 12 guineas as fees; and in 1814 the Earl of Liverpool and Viscount Castlereagh paid 6 guineas each to the Guard: this seems to have been the usual fee paid by a Knight of the Garter or the Bath on installation to the Yeomen of the Guard.

THE GUARD ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

2nd August, 1786.—Extract from the *Gazette* :—

"St. James's, August 2.

"This morning, as His Majesty was alighting from his carriage, at the gate of the palace, a woman who was waiting there, under pretence of presenting a petition, struck at His Majesty with a knife, but providentially his majesty received no injury. The woman was immediately taken into custody, and, upon examination, appears to be insane."

The circumstances attending this alarming event are thus related: As the King was alighting from his post-chariot, at the garden-entrance of St. James's Palace, the woman, who was very decently dressed, in the act of presenting a paper to His Majesty, which he was receiving with great condescension, struck a concealed knife at his breast, which His Majesty happily avoided by drawing back. As she was making a second thrust one of the Yeomen of the Guard caught her arm and at the same instant another Guard wrenched the knife from her hand. The King, with great temper and fortitude, exclaimed, "I am not hurt! Take care of the poor woman: do not hurt her!"

At the judicial examination of the prisoner it was found that her name was Margaret Nicholson. She was declared to be insane, and was conveyed on 9th August to Bethlehem Hospital.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.

On the 15th May, 1800, the metropolis was in a state of great excitement in consequence of what was at first thought to be a double attempt to assassinate the King. The first incident occurred at a review in Hyde Park, when during one of the volleys a shot was fired from one of the guns and struck a spectator who was standing about twenty feet from the King. Fortunately the wound was not serious, and by direction of His Majesty the sufferer was attended to by the army surgeons on the spot. All the cartouch-boxes of the troops on parade were examined, but no more ball cartridges were found, and it was concluded that the shot was accidental.

ANOTHER ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.

In the evening, however, a circumstance occurred which, coming so soon after the affair in Hyde Park, created a great sensation. The King and Queen went, with the royal princesses, to the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, and the Yeomen of the Guard, who as usual were on duty, had hardly taken their accustomed places when a shot was fired at the royal box, but fortunately without injuring any one. The man who had fired was seized and made prisoner by the Guard. The King then came to the front of the box and bowed his acknowledgments to the excited audience, who called for "God Save the King," which was sung with the greatest enthusiasm.

After the people had been assured that the culprit was safe the play proceeded. It subsequently transpired that the unfortunate culprit was ex-Sergeant James Hadfield, who had for some years been insane chiefly owing to wounds on the head which he had received while with the 15th Light Dragoons in Holland. He was acquitted of the charge of high treason, but retained in custody.

EXTRA PRECAUTIONS.

It was in consequence of this attempt on the life of the King—a personage whose safety was so dear and important to the State—that additional clauses were added to the Insanity Bill, which at the time happened to be before the House of Lords. The Lord Chancellor in moving the clause which had special reference to the personal safety of the Sovereign, said: "It was well known that persons labouring under this deplorable calamity had an unaccountable propensity to intrude themselves into the royal residences. No less than four instances of this kind, more or less alarming had occurred since Hadfield had shot at His Majesty."

The Body Guard were specially warned to be always on the look out for intruders of all kinds.

During this long reign the number of the Guard was not altered. The staff of officers consisted of the Captain, Lieutenant, Ensign, and Clerk of the Cheque, four Exempts, and an Adjutant or Secretary. The eight Ushers received a salary of £49 11s. 3*d.* each; 100 Yeomen, £39 11s. 3*d.*; six Yeomen Bed Hangers and two Yeomen Bed Goers had the same salary as the Ushers, and there were two Messengers. Four of the Guard were superannuated at £26 a year each.

As a rule forty of the Guard were on duty in the daytime and twenty by night. They occupied the Guard Chamber, which was on the first floor at the Palace.

From the following entry in the Order Book it would appear to have been customary for the Guard to attend the meetings of the Council:—"5 February, 1811.—The usual Guard ordered to attend the Privy Council at Carlton House."

It is worth remarking as indicating the manner and customs at the latter end of the last century that in the Order of 29th May, 1761, already quoted, twenty partizans were ordered of a lesser size than usual for the use of the Yeomen of the Guard attending the royal chairs. Of these new weapons sixteen were to be kept at St. James's and four at Leicester House. The sedan chairs were carried by the royal footmen, and two Yeomen walked before, two behind, and one on each side of the chair.

ROYAL FUNERALS.

"8th November, 1765.—On Friday night, the 8th of November, 1765, the body and urn of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland were conveyed from Grosvenor Square to the Princes' Chamber in the House of Lords, in a hearse drawn by six white horses adorned with white

feathers. The next evening at ten o'clock a sky rocket was fired from Westminster Bridge as a signal that the funeral had begun, and being answered by a similar signal from London Bridge the minute-guns began to be fired and were continued till another rocket proclaimed the end of the ceremony. The body was carried to the Abbey by fourteen of the Yeomen of the Guard."

At the funeral of the Princess Amelia, 13th November, 1810, the board and lodging for nine Yeomen for one night at the White Hart, Windsor, was allowed for at £6 8s., and the Lord Chamberlain paid coach hire to and from Windsor, £7 14s., and gave each man a gratuity of two guineas.

31st March, 1813.—At the funeral of the Duchess of Brunswick twelve Yeomen attended. They got to Windsor at one o'clock, attended the ceremony in the evening, and returned at nine next morning. Their bill at the Swan was £10 16s. 6d.; Coach hire, £8 17s. 6d.; luncheon on road, £2 1s. 6d.; gratuity to coachman, two guineas. When the men were paid each of the ten bearers had a white napkin presented to him.

On the death of the Duke of Kent, which took place on 23rd January, 1820, the funeral was conducted with all the formalities usual at a royal funeral, the procession being closed by the Yeomen of the Guard in mourning and carrying their partizans reversed.

DEATH OF THE KING.

The health of the King began to decline with the close of the year 1819, and on New Year's Day, 1820, the Yeomen had to mount guard over a bulletin which was evidently intended to prepare the people for a change for the worse. This change came, and the King died on 29th January, 1820. The Yeomen were on duty at the lying in state, which took place at Windsor during two days.

At the funeral the body was placed on "a mechanical bier" which was covered with a rich pall, which also entirely concealed the six Yeomen of the Guard who propelled the bier. In the official programme of the ceremony it is stated that ten Yeomen of the Guard carried the coffin from the door of the chapel to the vault, and the rest of them marching with partizans reversed brought up the rear of the procession.






ROGER MONK, ESQUIRE,
EXON, AT THE CORONATION OF GEORGE IV.,

1820.

GEORGE IV.

1820 TO 1830.

EORGE the Fourth's reign will always be memorable in the annals of the Yeomen of the Guard, for they are reminded of it at least once a-year, on the occasion of the birthday of the reigning sovereign, when they dine together through the liberality of Roger Monk, Esquire, who was an Exon of the Guard in the reign of George IV.

ROGER MONK.

Roger Monk was in 1826 Master of the Worshipful Company of Tallow Chandlers in the City of London, concerning whom Stowe tells us that "they were a society of great antiquity, living in good formality among men and loving agreement with themselves, and so came to be incorporated in the reign of Edward IV." Monk was as benevolent as he was rich, for beside founding several charities for the comfort of deserving members of his Company he left an annuity of £20 a-year to the Yeomen of the Guard.

Respecting this bequest the Order Book at St. James's Palace, under date 19th September, 1837, has this entry:—

"Roger Monk, Esquire, formerly an Exon of the Yeomen of the Guard, and who died in the month of October, 1831,

by his will dated 10 April, 1828, gave the residue of his estate and effects to the Tallow Chandlers' Company of the City of London, subject to the payment by them and their successors of (amongst other things) an annuity of £20 per annum, to be paid to the two senior Ushers of the Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard for ever, towards the expense of a dinner annually in honour of His Majesty's birthday."

The will was proved on the 8th November, 1831, and the annuity has been regularly paid by the Company to the two Senior Ushers of the Guard for the time being, and it has been duly applied by them as directed by the testator. The direction that the dinner shall be on "His Majesty's birthday" has been interpreted as meaning the birthday of the reigning sovereign. Occasionally the Captain has supplemented the twenty pounds by a contribution of his own, which has made the dinner much more enjoyable. It need hardly be added that the "Memory of Roger Monk, late Exon of the Guard," is a standing toast on these occasions.

In the Guard-room at St. James's Palace there is a lithograph portrait of Roger Monk in the uniform of an Exon of the Yeomen of the Guard. This magnificent uniform was made for and worn by him at the coronation of George IV. Unfortunately the picture has been carelessly coloured, a glaring fault being that the uniform is painted crimson instead of scarlet. I have been able to prove that this is a blunder, for I have discovered the original picture, painted by W. Pickersgill, R.A. It hangs in the hall of the Tallow Chandlers' Company, and by the courtesy of the officers of the Company I have been able to obtain the accompanying sketch. The original is a splendid picture, and does not suffer by comparison with the two fine portraits by Sir Godfrey Kneller of William III. and Queen Mary, which hang by the side of Roger Monk.

On a tablet beneath the portrait in the Guard-room at St. James's Palace is the following inscription :—

ROGER MONK, ESQUIRE,
EXON OF HIS MAJESTY'S YEOMEN OF THE GUARD,
ON DUTY AT THE CORONATION OF
HIS MAJESTY GEORGE IV.
HE BEQUEATHED £20 PER ANNUM FOR A
DINNER TO THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD ON THE
REIGNING MONARCH'S BIRTHDAY.

Tradition says that the uniform cost over £300. It was the last one made of that pattern for the officers, it being much too costly and the occasions for wearing it were so few and far between. The abandonment of this handsome and most picturesque uniform is much to be regretted, for the present substitute has nothing to recommend it, not even antiquity.

Roger Monk is buried in the Cloisters of Westminster Abbey, where a marble tablet on the wall and a grave-stone on the pathway mark his resting-place.

FUNERAL OF GEORGE IV.

On the death of George IV. at Windsor the body lay in state in the great Drawing Room in Windsor Castle, attended by one of the Lords of His Majesty's Bedchamber, two Grooms, two Officers of Arms, four Gentlemen Ushers, six Gentlemen Pensioners, and eight of the Yeomen of the Guard. They were in attendance from ten o'clock on the 14th July, 1830, till nine o'clock of the evening of the next day when the funeral took place. The State Apartment, the Guard Chamber, the Presence Chamber, and great staircase, were hung with

black cloth and lined by Gentlemen Pensioners and Yeomen of the Guard.

At the funeral the Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard attended, walking by the side of the Captain of the Gentlemen Pensioners, and immediately before the Groom of the Stole. After the coffin, and next to the Royal Princes, came the Gentlemen Pensioners with their axes reversed, and then the Yeomen of the Guard with their partizans reversed: the official programme says nothing about the Guards carrying the body to the grave.



WILLIAM. IV.

1830 TO 1837.

FROM this reign dates the present constitution of the Corps of the Yeomen of the Guard. An order, dated 4th April, 1835, abolished the old system of sale and purchase of nominations and re-arranged the salaries of the officers and men. It is noteworthy that the old adage as to longevity of annuitants is verified by the fact that there are now in the Corps two Yeomen who purchased their appointments more than fifty years ago for about £360, and they have been receiving their salary all these years, but of course paying for a deputy when they were on the rota for duty. Till this time it had been customary for the Captain of the Guard to keep a list of eligible applicants, and as vacancies arose they were appointed on payment of certain fees, namely: to the Captain 300 guineas, the Clerk of the Cheque 10 guineas, Deputy Clerk of the Cheque 1 guinea, Captain's secretary 5 guineas, Captain's servant 16 shillings; treat to Guard 5 guineas, Clerks £5, Messengers 2 guineas, Sword 2s., Quilt 2s. 6d., Parliament 1s. 6d., Servant 2s., Warrant and Stamps £1 5s. Total £346 12s. He also paid 10s. to the widow or representatives of his predecessor.

PURCHASE OF APPOINTMENTS ABOLISHED.

The letter to the Captain was as follows :—

4 April, 1835.—“I am commanded by the Lord Chamberlain to acquaint your Lordship that, in consequence of His Majesty’s directions that the sale and purchase of the various situations under the Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard should cease at the earliest moment, and all fees heretofore paid on appointments to the Captain, the Clerk of the Cheque, and the Captain’s Secretary, be put an end to;—

“The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty’s Treasury have directed that the following arrangement shall commence and take effect from the 1st of January last, as it regards the salaries and allowances paid in this department of the Corps of the Yeomen of the Guard.

“The salary of the Captain is fixed at £1,200 per annum, the salary of the Clerk of the Cheque at £120 per annum, and any fee which may have been received since the 1st of January last by the Captain or Clerk of the Cheque is to be returned to the parties.

“The salaries of the several Yeomen who may have been appointed without purchase under the arrangement now in force, by which such appointments are made without payment of any fee to the Captain, are to be reduced from the 1st of January last to £31 per annum, and none of such persons are to receive the annual allowance of £9 in lieu of old clothing, the Lords Commissioners considering that the persons alluded to, being appointed without payment of any fee, have no claim whatever to such allowance.”

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

The King also decreed that in future “the Officers shall be named by the King, who will reserve to himself exclusively

the selection of the most proper persons as vacancies occur from lists kept by the Commander-in-Chief, who will be responsible to the King for the past conduct and merit of those who may be recommended."

Another order states that no officer on full pay shall be eligible to hold a commission in his Majesty's Yeomen of the Guard.

An entry in the Order Book shows that in the reign of William IV. (1835) the price of a Commission as Exon was £3,500.

On 1st May, 1837, an order relating to Drawing Rooms directs that the Officers to attend shall be the Captain, the Lieutenant, the Ensign, and an Exon.

In March, 1831, an order was given for scarlet breeches for the Yeomen, and in April, 1834, the Officers were ordered to wear white trousers.

THE STANDARD HEIGHT.

On 9th December, 1835, an order was issued directing that the height of 5 feet 10 inches (which was the lowest standard for applicants for admission to the Corps) was to be dispensed with, it being stated that the chief object of the King was to obtain non-commissioned officers of good character and meritorious services, but too short stature was to be avoided.

On 30th April, 1837, King William IV. had all the Yeomen of the Guard who had been non-commissioned officers in the army and appointed under the new regulations paraded in full dress at St. James's Palace, and after inspecting them expressed his entire satisfaction.

Very soon after this His Majesty was taken ill with a mortal sickness, and the Yeomen were on special duty at the Palace, while the anxious populace marched through the room in which the bulletins of the state of the King's health were posted from time to time.

Amongst the notable Yeomen of this reign must be included John Wilkinson, who died on 6th August, 1833, aged 82. He had been in the Guard over forty-five years; during the latter part of the time he was Deputy Clerk of the Cheque. By his abstemiousness and thrift he was able to bequeath legacies of the value of £30,000, and left the residue, amounting to about £40,000, to trustees to be given away annually in sums of £10 or £15 to poor people of good character.





YEOMAN OF THE GUARD.

1885.



VICTORIA,

WHOM GOD PRESERVE !

BEGAN TO REIGN 20TH JUNE, 1837.

THE first appearance of the Yeomen of the Guard during the present long and glorious reign was at the proclamation of Her Majesty at the bay window of the Tapestry Room in St. James's Palace on 21st June, 1837. Very few of the officials are now alive who were present on that occasion, but the simple ceremonial of presenting the young Queen, then only eighteen, to the people, (represented by the crowd assembled in the court-yard below,) is still spoken of as being impressive in the extreme. The combination of grief and joy which was everywhere observable brought forth tears from the stoutest-hearted, amidst the shouts of "The King is dead !" "Long live the Queen !"

NEW UNIFORMS.

One of the first acts of the young Queen was to order new uniforms for her Guard, it being officially reported that

there were wanted “ninety-two uniforms complete, ninety-two swords (the present ones being inferior, and bearing, moreover, an emblem of the Hanoverian horse), eight dozen pairs of red stockings and eight dozen of grey, ninety-two ruffs, ninety-two rosettes for shoes, and ninety-two knee-bows. The initials W. R. on the partizans to be altered to V. R.”

All the above articles were supplied, as well as new batons of office, gold-topped for the Captain and silver for the other Officers.

The first Levée after the accession was held by Her Majesty at St. James’s Palace on Wednesday, 19th July, 1837, and the first Drawing Room on the day following, on both of which occasions the Guard were on duty.

THE CORONATION.

The Coronation took place on 28th June, 1838, and the Yeomen of the Guard, Ordinary and Extraordinary, assembled at St. James’s Palace, at seven o’clock in the morning. At eight o’clock eighteen of them, under the command of two Ushers, marched to the western entrance of Westminster Abbey. At half-past eight the remainder of the Corps were sized and marched under the command of the Lieutenant and Clerk of the Cheque to Buckingham Palace, to be ready for the Royal procession at nine o’clock. At ten o’clock Her Majesty and procession left for the Abbey.

The Yeomen of the Guard were represented as follows :—

The Captain, his coronet borne by a page.

The four Exons on horseback.

One hundred of the Yeomen of the Guard, four and four.

The Lieutenant, the Ensign, and Clerk of the Cheque, on horseback.

The official orders for the day, issued by the Earl Marshal, directed that—

In the Abbey “the officers of the Yeomen of the Guard and the Exons will stand within and near the choir door.

The Yeomen of the Guard will stand in the nave on the outside of the entrance to the choir." "The Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard will pass to his seat as a peer."

20th June, 1838.—It being customary at coronations to knight one of the officers of the Yeomen of the Guard, George Houlton, Esquire, Exon, was knighted on this occasion.

Amongst the Corps property is a beautifully engraved cornelian seal set in gold, and having an ivory handle, on which the following inscription is engraved:—

PRESENTED
BY THE CAPTAIN,
THE EARL OF ILCHESTER,
TO THE CORPS
ON THE OCCASION OF THE CORONATION OF
HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA,
28TH JUNE, 1838.

The legend on the outer rim runs thus:—

The Seal of the Yeomen of the Guard.

And in the centre is a shield with the Royal Arms surmounted by the Crown, with the date 1485, the whole being encircled by the Garter with the motto, "Honi soit [qui] mal y pense."



By an order of the Queen in Council, dated 19th July, 1837, the ancient liberties, right, privileges, and exemptions were confirmed to the servants of the Royal Household, the Yeomen of the Guard being included in the denomination of "servants in ordinary with fee," and as being under the command of the Lord Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household, as "servants above stairs."

Beside the occasions before mentioned and the Drawing Rooms and Levées, there have been numerous memorable ceremonials connected with the royal family at which it has been customary for the Guard to be on duty, such as births, christenings, confirmations, marriages, and funerals, about which there has been nothing specially noticeable, except perhaps the marriage of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Concerning this happy event it appears from the official programme, published in the *Gazette*, 18th March, 1863, that "at the wedding of the Prince of Wales the Captain of the Gentlemen-at-Arms, the Lord Foley, walked on the right, and the Earl of Ducie, Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, on the left of the Gold Stick, Field-Marshal the Viscount Combermere, in the procession of the royal family and of the Queen's Household. The procession was brought up by six Yeomen of the Guard, and two of them stood in the choir of the Chapel beneath the Royal Closet, and the space in the nave of the Chapel (St. George's Chapel, Windsor) from the western door to the entrance of the Choir was lined by the Yeomen of the Guard, under the command of their Officers, the Lieutenant, the Ensign, the Clerk of the Cheque, and the Exon-in-Waiting."

A guard of ten men of the Yeomen of the Guard was also stationed at Windsor Castle.

It may be mentioned that the Countess of Ducie, the wife of the Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, attended the wedding, as did, indeed, all "Her Majesty's Household, with their husbands and wives respectively."

STATE ENTERTAINMENTS.

12th May, 1842.—The Queen gave a Bal Masqué at Buckingham Palace, when fifty-five of the Guard and the usual Officers attended. The Yeomen were dispersed over the public rooms, and by command of the Queen the Captain appeared in the costume of and represented his lordship's ancestor, Lord Percy, Lord Warden of the Marches, who in 1346 commanded at the battle of Nevill's Cross when David, King of Scotland, was made prisoner. The costume consisted of chain armour, over which was a surcoat with the family arms of Brabant and Percy emblazoned thereon, and a bâton and cap of honour. The other Officers wore their usual uniform.

At the Bal Costumé at Buckingham Palace on 13th June, 1851, the Captain and other Officers appeared in the costume of the Officers of the Corps in the reign of Charles II.

"10th December, 1850.—Her Majesty received Addresses on the Throne at Windsor Castle this day from the City of London and the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Thirty of the Guard were on duty under the command of the Exon in waiting. They lined the little Guard Chamber, the Grand Staircase, and Vestibule. The Lieutenant and Adjutant were also on duty. After the Addresses were presented the Yeomen dined at the New Inn, and returned to London."

Whenever the Guard go to Windsor their partizans and uniforms are taken down under the charge of the Wardrobe Keeper, who takes them to the New Inn, where the proprietor sets apart the dressing-room and other necessary rooms for the exclusive use of the Yeomen.

Pegge, writing in 1783, says that "the Yeomen of the Guard receive Christmas boxes from the nobility, Foreign Ministers, &c., for giving them the honours of the Guard Chamber, commonly called 'Stand-by,' as they pass up the stairs to the Presence Chamber."

9th August, 1845.—Under this date the Corps Order Book has an entry stating that the Yeomen of the Guard, attending an Investiture or Installation of a Knight of the Garter, were entitled to a fee of £6 6s., but by an oversight it had not been claimed for many years past, the Clerk of the Cheque, therefore, applied on behalf of the Corps to Garter King at Arms and recovered £88 4s., and divided the same amongst the Yeomen of the Guard.

THE FEE FUND.

These and all personal fees theretofore received by members of Her Majesty's Household were abolished by an Order under the Royal sign manual as from 5th April, 1851. And by Order of 28th May, 1851, a Fee Fund was established to which all fees were added, and at stated periods, usually at Christmas time, they were equitably divided.

10th March, 1848.—In anticipation of the Chartist riots there was an order made to divide the Corps into eight sections, and the Usher and Sergeant-Major of each division was ordered to drill the men in the use of firearms until they are reported fit for duty.

The Chartist demonstrations took place on 10th April and 12th June, 1848, when the Guard were all on duty and were armed like the Line regiments with muskets fitted with bayonets.

The Captain, the Marquis of Donegal, had a minute made in the Orderly Book notifying that the Secretary of State, Sir George Grey, had thanked the Captain for the alacrity

with which the Corps had been armed and prepared to do good service had such been necessary.

INSPECTION PARADES.

The order for the annual inspection in the year 1840 was as follows:—

“Officers and men assembled at St. James’s Palace at noon, and after being formed into Division, headed by their respective Ushers, they were marched by the Clerk of the Cheque into the Presence Chamber, the King’s Guard Chamber, the Queen’s Guard Chamber, and the Outree Gallery, where, after the Cheque Roll had been called over, they received their Captain, the Earl of Ilchester, and were then inspected by his lordship and dismissed.”

Now the Annual Inspection takes place in June on the lawn in the garden of St. James’s Palace. The Captain is generally the Inspecting Officer, but there have been some notable exceptions during the past twenty years, as will be seen from the following table of

NOTABLE ANNUAL INSPECTIONS.

H.R.H. The Prince of Wales	...	...	29th June, 1869.
H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge	...	...	28th June, 1870.
H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh	...	...	9th June, 1874.
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales	...	...	22nd June, 1875.
H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught	...	...	20th June, 1876.
H.R.H. The Crown Prince of Sweden	...	...	17th June, 1879.
Sir Garnet Wolseley	...	...	15th June, 1880.

This year (1885) the annual inspection took place on Tuesday, 23rd June, and being the four hundredth anniversary year would have been made more of than usual, but it unfortunately happened that there was a change of Ministry in progress, and it was doubtful whether there would be any Captain at the inspection. However, the Corps assembled in the Guard Room at St. James's Palace, and at one o'clock marched to the lawn. The men were in full dress and carrying their partizans. They were formed up in two lines with the Sergeant-Majors on the flanks carrying their bâtons or walking-sticks. The Officers—all of whom were present—took post in front; the ranks were opened; and the Captain, Lord Monson, having been saluted, made a close inspection of each man. The ranks were then closed up, and the flanks wheeled inwards so as to form three sides of a square, with the Officers in the centre. The Captain then addressed a very few words to the men. Line was re-formed, the men were faced to the right and dismissed. Ensign the Hon. W. J. Colville then selected some men to be photographed, and the spectators were accorded the usual privilege of inspecting the State Apartments.

The *Court Newsman* furnished the daily newspapers with the following official account:—

“The annual inspection of Her Majesty's Body Guard of Yeomen of the Guard took place yesterday in the garden of St. James's Palace. The inspection was made by Lord Monson, the Captain, and the following Officers were present with the Corps:—Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Arthur Need (the Lieutenant), Colonel the Hon. W. J. Colville (the Ensign), Lieutenant-Colonel Patterson, Captain Morley, Colonel H. Hume, C.B., and Major Ellison (the Exons), and Lieutenant-Colonel F. Baring (the Adjutant and Clerk of the Cheque).”

On 24th June, 1861, an important order was issued by direction of Her Majesty by which the purchase of Officers'

commissions was stopped, and certain other arrangements relating solely to the Officers were made. They are given at length in the Introduction to this history in the chapter on Officers.

THE STANDARD HEIGHT.

In 1849 there was an order issued directing that in future every man in the Corps must be at least 5 feet 10 inches in height and under fifty years of age, but three years later (1852) this order as regards height was dispensed with where there was a record of "distinguished service before the enemy." So that shortness of stature is now a special mark of merit.

There is a story told (names being omitted) that great influence was on one occasion brought to bear upon the Sovereign to get a nomination for a certain non-commissioned officer who had served his country well, and his name was accordingly sent to the Horse Guards. On being measured, however, the applicant was found to be only 5 feet 9½ inches in height, and the Commander-in-Chief declined to break the regulation which required a standard height of at least 5 feet 10 inches. It was not till the rule had been altered that the Duke of Wellington would recommend the man as being qualified to fill the post of Yeoman of the Guard.

2nd February, 1883.—The Royal Bounty in the shape of a pension of £40 per annum, was granted to the widow of the late Thomas Davis, late Assistant Adjutant of the Yeomen of the Guard.

There is very little to be said on the subject of uniform during this reign. The admiration for the picturesque old dress has certainly not diminished, as may be judged by the universal indignation which was expressed on the erroneous announcement that the old uniform was to be discarded. This is treated of fully in the account of the Tower

Warders. It only remains necessary to record here that on 31st January, 1843, a General Order was made that "Ruffs and Rosettes be worn by the Yeomen of the Guard when on duty."

5th November, 1862.—An application was made by an ex-serjeant of the 49th Foot, who purchased his discharge after seven years' service in the army, including the Crimean War, to be placed on the list of candidates for appointment as Yeoman of the Guard. Hereupon the question arose whether the man, not being a pensioner, was eligible. After considering the matter, the Lord Chamberlain informed H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief that there is no record of any rule which disqualifies from appointment as Yeoman of the Guard any deserving man who has been a non-commissioned officer in the army and (having purchased his discharge) is no longer a pensioner.

SEARCHING FOR GUY FAUX.

At the opening of Parliament an Exon, an Usher and ten Yeomen, attend the Deputy Great Chamberlain, and about two hours before the opening they examine the vaults. It is stated in a book of anecdotes that upon one occasion the Yeomen found 25 barrels of gunpowder in the vaults, and the Lord Chamberlain reported to the House that "he had removed 10 of the barrels and hoped the other 15 would do no harm."

The Guard always go without their partizans. Before beginning their search they are supplied with lanterns, and they go through the vaults with drawn swords. There are numerous ladders to get up and down, and it is rather risky work for some of the more aged Yeomen. They are accompanied by certain of the resident officials and the police: as many as thirty persons being occupied by the search, which usually takes about two hours..

In connection with these proceedings there is a pleasant usage which enables the Guard to drink "the Sovereign's health" in a glass of good wine at Bellamy's in Parliament Street. The origin of the practice arose out of the circumstance that Bellamy's wine-cellars, which were first stocked in 1760, were partly under the old House of Commons; and at the periodical searches for Guy Faux the proceedings terminated appropriately, if not purposely, in one of the wine-cellars. Here the Yeomen were met by old Bellamy, and it was natural enough that the jolly old boniface should invite the searchers to drink "the King's health" in some of the famous wines by which they were surrounded. The wags amongst the company no doubt suggested that the butts looked as if they contained some body in them. "I believe you, my boy!" would cry old Bellamy: "All my tipples down here is full-bodied; taste and try." So the royal toast was drunk, and was properly followed by that of "the Host."

When the Houses of Parliament were burned down in 1834 Messrs. Bellamy's business was removed to vaults beneath the Sessions House and thence to Parliament Street. The removal, however, did not stop the hospitality of the firm, and the Yeomen of the Guard still have their cake and wine at Bellamy's after they have finished their search under the Houses of Parliament.

Lieut.-Colonel W. Griffin Sutton, the Adjutant, died on 26th November, 1884, and was succeeded by Lieut.-Colonel Francis Baring.

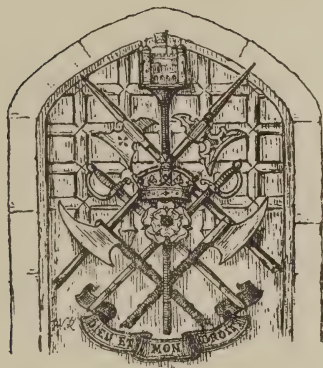
THE PRESENT GUARD.

The salaries of the Guard now are—Messengers, £75 per annum; Serjeant-Majors, £60; and Privates, £50.




TOWER WARDER, FULL DRESS.

THE TOWER WARDERS.



THE TOWER WARDERS.

O history of the Yeomen of the Guard would be complete without some notice of the Tower Warders.


They are however a distinct Corps, and have duties to perform quite different from those of the Yeomen of the Guard described in the foregoing pages. The origin of the Warders of the Tower can of course be traced back to the time when the fortress was used as a prison—to the days in fact when the first prisoner, Flambard Bishop of Durham, was sent there by Henry I. in the year 1100. It is noteworthy that Flambard contrived to evade the vigilance of the Warders, and the Tower's first prisoner made his escape.

It was in the reign of Edward VI., while the Duke of Somerset was prisoner in the Tower, that, to win the favour of the Warders and to make his imprisonment as pleasant as possible, he promised them that if ever the King set him at liberty he would try and get them his Majesty's cloth for their livery. Being pardoned soon after, the Duke kept his promise, and fifteen of the Warders were sworn in as Extraordinary Yeomen of the Chamber and received liveries like the Yeomen of the Guard in ordinary, but they had no cross-belts given them, as they did not carry the carabine or arquebuss. This absence of the cross-belt has ever since

been and still is the distinguishing mark between the two Corps when they are paraded together on State occasions.

The principal duty of the Warders, that of looking after the State prisoners, being now happily a sinecure, the men have for many years been employed in various capacities in the Tower, but principally in conducting parties of visitors through the building and explaining, after a fashion, what they thought were the most interesting features. This plan has long been condemned as unsatisfactory, for however intelligent a Warder may be it is impossible for him to anticipate correctly the wishes of the many visitors by showing them just what they want to see. A new arrangement is said to be in contemplation by which the Warders will be employed to give "watch and ward" at certain fixed points in the Tower while visitors with a reliable guide-book in their hands will be at liberty to inspect at their leisure the objects which interest them most. This will make a visit to the Tower much more enjoyable and instructive than it has been hitherto.

HISTORICAL EXTRACTS.

HE following extracts are in chronological order. They must not be taken to be all or anything like all the references to the Warders which are to be found in the Tower archives and other places. They were discovered while searching for information concerning the Yeomen of the Guard, but, so far as the author knows, they have not heretofore appeared in print, and may therefore be acceptable to the readers of these pages.

When Edward VI. established his Guards in the Tower the following penalties and punishments were ordered to be enforced: "No Guard to leave the Tower without leave, or be fined for the first offence 12*d.*, for the second 3*s.*, for the

third to be imprisoned three days, and for the fourth offence to be dismissed and punished." When we consider what was the value of money in the reign of Edward VI. we shall be able to comprehend how severe these penalties were.

When the historian Paul Hentzner visited the Tower in 1598 he records that in the armoury he saw "spears out of which you may shoot, shields that will give fire four times, a great many rich halberds, commonly called partizans, with which the Guards defend the royal person in battle." This confusion of the words halberd and partizan is worth noticing, as it will account for many blunders both in pictorial and written descriptions of the Yeomen of the Guard. The halberd is a battle-axe and the partizan a kind of spear. The former has been carried by the Gentlemen Pensioners, now the Gentlemen-at-Arms, ever since their formation in 1509, while the Yeomen of the Guard and the Tower Warders have from the reign of Henry VIII. carried the partizan and not the halberd.

PETITION FOR PAY.

On 17th May, 1678, the Warders petitioned Charles II. for payment of three years' arrears of pay. They stated that "they had paid for their food and clothes, and if they did not get their pay they were like to be ruined." Sir John Robinson, Lieutenant of the Tower, was ordered to report on the subject, and, this report being made, the matter was referred to the Lord Treasurer, but the result is not recorded. We find however that on 7th February, 1682, a similar petition was presented, and was "referred to Lord Dartmouth, Master-General of His Majesty's Ordnance, to examine and report."

LORD DARTMOUTH'S REPORT.

This interesting document gives so much information concerning the early history of the Warders that I have

printed it *in extenso*, as well as the Order in Council made thereon. It was read before Charles II. and his Privy Council on 10th May, 1683.

“ May it please your Majesty.

“ In obedience to your Majesty’s commands at the Council Board of the 7th of February last past, I have examined the allegations set forth in the Petition then presented to your Majesty by several of the Yeomen Warders of your Majesty’s Tower of London, and according to the best information I can obtain do find,—

“ That by your Majesty’s Warrant, dated the 22nd of June, 1667, to Sir John Robinson, Knight and Bart., late Lieutenant of the Tower, your Majesty was pleased to direct and signify your pleasure, that your Majesty found fit to make some considerable retrenchment of your expenses in all the parts thereof (and amongst others) of that in your Tower of London, viz. that whereas there were forty Yeomen of the Guards Warders of the Tower whose pay came to £851 13s. 4d. per ann., your Majesty did by the said Warrant then order that the places of the said Warders which then were or thereafter should become void should not be supplied till the number of the said Warders was reduced to twenty.

“ But by your Majesty’s Warrant bearing date the 26th day of November, in the 24th year of your Majesty’s reign, Anno Domini 1672, your Majesty then thought fit for several reasons to annul and revoke the former warrant. And your Majesty’s will and pleasure further was that they should be completed and made up the number to forty in all, and that they receive the same pay and allowances as formerly according to the old establishment, your Majesty’s Warrant of the 16th March, 1667, or any other order, to the contrary notwithstanding, from which time they have been mustered the number of forty, and the present list of their names is here

annexed, with the places of abode of such as have no houses in the Tower, and those that do really live in the Tower, and such others as let their houses to tenants, and do not inhabit there as I humbly conceive they ought to be obliged to do, for your Majesty's better service.

“It doth likewise appear that the petitioners have not received their coats for the year 1678, nor for the several years elapsed since 1680. But if they were now clothed once and continued yearly for the future (if it shall be so thought fit) I humbly conceive your Majesty need not be at the charge of so many coats to be made for the present as the petitioners desire or pretend to.

“By the ancient establishment of the Yeomen Warders in the Tower of London they were forty in number, there being no other sort of paid Guard in the said fortress, only an additional force from the Militia Hamlets drawn in by order of the Constable or Lieutenant of the Tower for the time being from time to time as they judged necessary. But this your Majesty's ancient and Royal citadel is now guarded and garrisoned by five companies of your Guards and three independent companies that have been continued ever since your Majesty's happy Restoration for the necessary defence of the Tower, so that in all there are eight companies of Foot constantly quartered or may be quartered for the security of that place, and a good proportion of your Majesty's fee'd Gunners will speedily be conveniently lodged there as an additional and useful strengthening to the former Guards, and of the forty Yeomen Warders there are that live in the Tower seventeen that have houses, and that do not live in the Tower five, and that have no houses, but live at a distance, as the annexed roll mentions, eighteen; so that of the forty Warders upon the present establishment there are twenty-three that do not lodge in the Tower, whereby they are not rendered so capable of discharging their duty as I humbly conceive is intended by the establishment.

“This being the state of the matter of fact (according to the information I have received), and that your Majesty is further pleased to command my opinion what is best to be done for your Majesty’s service, I most humbly submit it to your Majesty’s approbation, that in consideration the old establishment of forty are not a sufficient Guard, but ought to be much increased in number, if there were no other Guard in the Tower as formerly; but since your Majesty hath otherwise provided a much greater security for this place, and that the chief duty of the Warders is at present only to lodge and look after their particular prisoners, and to attend a few at a time only for opening the gates, for their first duty no more can be necessary then those that have houses to lodge their prisoners in, and for their common ward at the gates twenty-four may be a sufficient number, being but four days’ duty at six each day; though four at a time may be enough to be always present at the gates, yet in regard the present Warders have bought their employments, which hath been always accustomed, and that they have been in your Majesty’s service (many of them) long, without any fault layd to their charge, ’tis humbly proposed only for the future as they die off that your Majesty may be eased of that charge till they, by death or otherways, be reduced to the number of twenty-four. And I am the more inclineable to think twenty-four a sufficient number because that number may with ease be provided with convenient houses, whereby they will be all capable of lodging prisoners and lodging in the Tower according to their duty and the use intended them by the old and present establishment.

“But the Honourable Thomas Cheeke, Esq., Lieutenant of your Majesty’s Tower of London, desires me humbly to represent to your Majesty’s consideration some recompense for the prejudice he shall sustain by the loss of so ancient a perquisite which his predecessors always enjoyed.

“And I further lay before your Majesty that not only the

Warders but all your officers belonging to the Tower may live themselves in the proper houses appointed for the necessary discharge of their places, and not suffered to let their houses to tenants, by which means strange families become inhabitants within your Tower, which may be very prejudicial to your Majesty's service, and is contrary to an Order of Council, dated the 4th of July, 1620, made upon a Report of Sir Edward Coke, as may more largely appear with the reasons in the said Order of Council, and at the same time your Majesty forced to hire quarters at your own charge for lodging your Commissioned Officers upon their necessary duty; and if your Majesty shall please to have it particularly examined, I am humbly of opinion there may be convenience found within the Outward and Inward Walls of the Tower for lodgings to be fitted for all your Majesty's soldiers, gunners, warders, and officers that may be most necessary for your service, without further charge to your Majesty.

“All which is most humbly submitted to your Majesty's pleasure.

“DARTMOUTH.”

ORDER OF 10TH MAY, 1683.

His Majesty in Council having considered of the said Report, was pleased to approve thereof, “and to order, and it is hereby ordered accordingly, That the Warders of the Tower of London shall be now clothed for one year, and for the future shall be continued to be clothed yearly, and that their number shall be reduced from forty to four-and-twenty by degrees, as any of them shall die, or their places otherwise become void, which twenty-four Warders are to dwell in the Tower, and houses are to be provided for such as have none according to the said Reports, to enable them to lodge such prisoners as shall be

committed to their charge according to their duty by the old and present establishment ; And his Majesty further taking notice of the Lord Dartmouth's opinion in the said Report that convenience may be found within the Outward and Inward Walls of the Tower for lodgings to be fitted for all His Majesty's soldiers, gunners, warders, and officers most necessary for His Majesty's service, His Majesty was pleased to appoint the Right Honourable the Lord Keeper, Lord President, Lord Privy Seal, Earl of Sunderland, Earl of Clarendon, Earl of Craven, Earl of Conway, Earl of Nottingham, Earl of Rochester, Lord Dartmouth, and Mr. Secretary Jenkins, to be a Committee of this Board to consider of the best manner of lodging His Majesty's soldiers, gunners, warders, and officers with the most convenience in the Tower as aforesaid. And that they give all necessary orders for the performing thereof ; and their Lordships are further to enquire what persons that have a dependance upon his Majesty's service within the Tower, and by virtue thereof enjoy any houses or lodgings, and do not dwell therein themselves, but hire the same out to tenants, strangers there, whereby His Majesty's service may receive prejudice, which His Majesty was pleased to declare to be a practice which he would not suffer. And therefore their Lordships are to take care to cause the same to be rectified.

“And, in regard that the defence of the Tower is now provided for by a sufficient garrison, as is mentioned in the said Report, and that the said Warders are to be reduced to the number of twenty-four as aforesaid, His Majesty was further pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered accordingly, That for the future the Guard of the Gate of the Tower be kept by a convenient number of the soldiers of the garrison there, under the command of the Non-commission Officers, by which means the Warders will be the better able to look carefully after their particular prisoners, which is the chief part of their duty.

“And as to the opening, shutting, and looking after the gates, His Majesty was pleased to order that the Gentleman Porter for the time being do perform the same duty which is executed by a Town Major in other garrisons. And His Majesty was also pleased to order that the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty’s Treasury do give order for the clothing of the said Warders as soon as conveniently may be, and likewise that such care be taken for the satisfaction of their arrears of salary as may consist with the present condition of His Majesty’s affairs. And as to what relates to the prejudice which Thomas Cheeke, Esq., Lieutenant of the Tower, will receive by the reduction of the said Warders to twenty-four by not supplying the first sixteen vacancies that shall happen by death or otherwise (it being an ancient perquisite of his place to fill such vacancies), His Majesty was graciously pleased to declare his Royal intention to take care that the said Thomas Cheeke shall receive a fitting recompense for the same.”

COST OF THE WARDERS IN 1681.

The following extracts show the cost of the Lieutenant and the Warders two hundred years ago:—

Demands of Thomas Cheeke, Esq., Lieutenant of the Tower, of salaries due to himself, the Gentleman Porter, and forty Yeomen of the Guard:

Christmas Quarter, from 30th Sept. 1681,	
to 25th day of December following,	
being 87 days	£258 16s. 0d.

Lady-day Quarter, from 26th day of	
December, 1681, unto and for the	
25th day of March, 1682, being 90	
days	£266 0s. 0d.

The number of Warders on the pay-list on 30th September, 1685, was thirty-two, and on the 17th December, 1686, there were a Gentleman Porter and twenty-nine Warders, so that the order not to fill up vacancies appears to have been carried out.

An important order was made by King James II. on 30th July, 1687, which directed that "in future the salaries of the Lieutenant of the Tower, the Gentleman Porter, and the Yeomen Warders, be placed on the establishment of the army, and be paid as the rest of His Majesty's garrisons are paid."

PRIVILEGE OF WARDERS.

It was reported on 10th March, 1691, that a Yeoman Warder had been arrested by three men and carried to Wood Street Compter without the men having first obtained leave of Lord Lucas, Chief Governor of the Tower, to make the arrest. This proceeding being "a manifest breach of the privilege of His Majesty's Household," the three men were ordered into custody. Thereupon they admitted their mistake, made due apology, and were set at liberty.

INSTALLATION OF THE CONSTABLE.

On 12th June, 1707, the Earl of Essex was sworn in as Constable of the Tower, and at the same time took the oaths as Lord Lieutenant of the Tower Hamlets. At the same time the Lord Chamberlain was directed to deliver up the custody of the Tower to the Earl of Essex, and to declare to all "inferior officers of the said place, and particularly to the Gentleman Porter (who is to deliver up the keys to the Earl of Essex), that it is Her Majesty's pleasure that they be obedient to the said Constable and to the Lieutenant, who are each of them according to their respective patents

jointly and severally to take the charge and care of the said Tower and of all things therein which are committed unto them."

On 15th April, 1713, it was ordered that all commitments of prisoners to the Tower be directed to the Constable or to the Deputy Lieutenant.

The special duties of the Warders are plainly indicated in the following extracts :—

THE CONSTABLE'S BILLS.

	£	s.	d.
For carrying the Earl of Oxford and Earl Mortimer to his tryal, 4 several days, vizt., 24th, 25th, and 27th June, and 1st July, 1717	8	0	0
For carrying Lords Widdrington, Carnwath, and Nairn to be bayled ye 22nd July, 1717	6	0	0
For pens, wax, papers, &c., for 3 years at £5 per ann.	15	0	0
For bonfires the same time, at £5 per ann. ...	15	0	0
For perambulations the same time, at £10 per ann.	30	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£74	0	0
	<hr/>		

The allowance of £5 a-year for bonfires on the birthday of the Sovereign was stopped in 1854, but the grant of £10 for perambulating the Tower boundaries is still continued, and the ceremonious proceedings detailed in the subjoined description are still carried out every third year on Ascension Day. The Staff with the silver model of the Tower on the top is sketched in the Tower Warders' trophy on a preceding page.

“TAKING THE BOUNDARIES.”

The order of the ceremonial extracted from the Tower Records:—

“1723.—On Ascension Day, after prayers [at St. Peter’s ad Vincula] are ended, y^e Boundary’s of y^e Tow^r Liberties are taken, viz^t., a great number of Boys, each having a white wand in his hand, begins the Procession at y^e Warders’ lodge, and are follow’d by y^e Conbles & Beadles, next two Warders abreast, follow’d by y^e Gent. Porter, after him 18 Warders more, two abreast, follow’d by y^e Gent. Gaoler wth y^e axe on his should^r (y^e edge pointing forward), & afterwards y^e Depy Lieut., Major, Chaplain, & myself [the Yeoman Porter], were follow’d by y^e Surgeon, Master Gunner, & other Gunners, & y^e rest of the Inferior Officers of y^e Tower & sev^l Inhabitants of y^e Libty. Each p[’]son, from y^e Depy Lt to y^e boys, having a knott of small ribbands or fferrything of blue, red, & white tyed to the button or buttonhole on their bosoms—from y^e Warders’ lodge they went over y^e drawbridge to y^e wharfe, and round by y^e Tower where y^e lions are kept along the outside of Tower Hill, and up y^e steps at y^e end of Tower Street to Barking Alley’s end, keeping within y^e gutter or chanell, from thence to y^e corner above G^r Harcourt Master’s, where a few boys (& some Warders) went thrō a passage & over a wall, but met us afterwards. We continu’d on to y^e first turning, & came to y^e end of y^e Minories, a few boys meeting us there thrō an alley just by. We went up into Rosemary Lane, on y^e right side y^e way, and thrō a lane, & came again on y^e farther side Tower Hill (and near the water side sent off 4 Warders wth 2 Conbles to Spittlefields, y^e Little Minories, & Well Close Square, to some pt of y^e Tow^r Libtys there); meanwhile we came from there on y^e wharfe & return’d over y^e same drawbridge to y^e Warders’ Lodge, & at y^e Court Room, y^e tables being spread, we

regal'd ourselves wth an entertainment of 3 cold hams, bread & butt^r, radishes, &c., & sev^l bottles of wine, where his Maj^{tie}, y^e Prince & Princess, Prince ffred, & y^e rest of y^e Roy^l ffamily's healths were drank, as also y^e Tow^r Libtys, y^e Con'ble, L^t, and Dep L^t, &c.

"The Warders had 20 bottles of wine and 40 rowles, y^e Gunners 3 bottles and rowles, and each boy a p^t of ale and a rowle. Ten pounds are allow'd by the Governm^t towards this.

"The Ward^{rs} were ordered to be all of them there again y^e 28th May, his Maties birthday."

Correct extract, September 4, 1885.

G. B. MILMAN, Lieut.-General,
Major of the Tower.

AN ODD ITEM.

There is a novel item in the demand of the Earl of Lincoln, dated 17th October, 1725. After making the usual claims for bonfires and perambulations, his lordship asks for £10 "for putting out a child left on the Tower wharf."

JURISDICTION OF CAPTAIN OF THE YEOMEN.

On the occasion of the trial of Earl Ferrers a question arose as to the jurisdiction of the Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard over the Tower Warders, which gave rise to the following correspondence.

The first letter, dated 7th April, 1760, was from Lord Falmouth, Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, to the Earl of Cornwallis, Constable of the Tower, requesting that "12 Yeomen Warders of the Tower of London in Ordinary, being Yeomen of the said Guard Extraordinary, attend at the Court of Requests in Westminster Hall on 16th April next."

In answer to which the Constable replied:—

“ The Tower, 9th April, 1760.

“ As from our books, and enquiries of the oldest Warders, I find no precedent for any of them attending the trials of Lords, but in conducting them to such trials and back again to the Tower; and as we shall have occasion for most of their services in the trial of Earl Ferrers in the proper Guard of the Tower, and that of his person,” his lordship desired to be excused from sending the men.

Lord Falmouth replied, 10th April, 1760, stating that precedents are out of the case—that he has a right to the services of the Yeomen Extraordinary when he thinks necessary on extraordinary occasions, but waives their attendance on the present occasion, as Lord Cornwallis thinks their services will be required for the safe custody of the Earl.

An application by Lord Falmouth for thirty men from the Tower to attend the funeral of George II. seems to have been complied with without demur.

TRIAL OF EARL FERRERS.

In connection with the trial of Earl Ferrers the following bill will be read with interest. It may be mentioned that the Earl was not executed on Tower Hill but was hanged at Tyburn.

The Tower bill from Michaelmas 1754 to Michaelmas 1760:—

	£	s.	d.
To safe keeping Lawrence, Earl Ferrers, 11 weeks and 3 days... ..	26	6	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
April 16th—To carrying said Lawrence, Earl Ferrers, to Westminster Hall	2	0	0
April 17th—To ditto	2	0	0
„ 18th—To ditto	2	0	0
„ „ To carrying said Earl Ferrers to Tower Hill... ..	2	0	0
	£8	0	0



THE TOWER OF TO-DAY.

BESIDE being a fortress, the Tower of London is a Royal Palace, and has always been under the direct control of the Sovereign, who is represented therein by the Constable, who holds his appointment by Royal Letters Patent under the Great Seal. He is honoured with the privilege of audience of and direct communication with the Sovereign. The present Constable is General Sir Richard James Dacres, G.C.B.

The installation of the Constable takes place in the Tower soon after his appointment, and the keys are then formally delivered to him by the Lord Chamberlain, or his representative, in the manner described in a previous page.

The next Officer is the Lieutenant, who is also appointed by Royal Letters Patent, to act under the Constable. When the Constable is absent, or when the office is vacant, he has the full powers and privileges of the Constable. The present Lieutenant is Lieutenant-General Lord Chelmsford, G.C.B.

The Lieutenant of the Tower is, *ex officio*, placed on the Commission of the Peace for the Tower Liberties, on the application of the Constable to the Lord Chancellor.

The third Officer is the Tower Major, who is appointed by commission. When the Constable and Lieutenant are absent, the Major is authorised and directed by Royal Warrant to assume the command of the Tower, and he then performs the duties of Governor. He, like the Lieutenant, is made a Justice of the Peace for the Tower Liberties, and the Yeomen Warders are sworn in by him as Special Constables, their duties being confined to the limits of the Tower. The Major is also made a Deputy-Lieutenant of the Tower Hamlets. The present Tower Major is Lieutenant-General G. B. Milman, C.B.

The Tower Commitment Book, containing the date of entry of all prisoners as far back as 1666, is in the custody of the Major, at the Queen's House, where he resides.

THE WARDERS.

In Her Majesty's Regulations for the Tower the Yeomen Warders are described as "Honorary" Members of her Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard. The men are all appointed by the Constable from a list of eligible warrant officers and non-commissioned officers of the army. The Warders are on the same footing as serjeant-majors of the army, and their discipline is maintained in the same way as that of non-commissioned officers serving with their regiments.

THE YEOMAN GAOLER.

The Yeoman Gaoler, who carries the curious old axe (figured in the Tower trophy of arms), is selected from the Warders, and is responsible for the general maintenance of order within the Tower. He takes charge of State prisoners, makes out the Warders' warrants, hands over their quarters to new occupants, and takes possession of any vacated

quarters. Whenever a Warder's house is vacated it is offered to the senior Warder, who has put his name on the list for that purpose.

THE YEOMAN PORTER.

The Yeoman Porter is the Chief Warder, and is answerable for the discipline of the Warders, and reports irregularities to the Tower Major. He has charge of the gates, wickets, drawbridges, and entrance, and (as Wardrobe Keeper) has the care of the Warders' uniforms, accoutrements, and arms. He has a general superintendence of the Warders' houses, and sees that none but warders occupy them. All applications from the Warders to the authorities go through his hands. The boundary marks of the Tower Liberties are annually inspected by him, and their condition is reported to the Major. The ceremony of perambulating the bounds, in which he takes a prominent part, is given in a previous page. The Yeoman Porter also asserts the rights of the Tower authorities over Postern Row and George Street by closing the iron bars across those thoroughfares for one hour on the first working day in August. He also acts as Clerk in the office of the Constable, and has charge, under the Major, of the books and papers therein.

It is the business of the Yeoman Water-Pumper (who is also Assistant Yeoman Porter) to look after the water supply, flush the drains, and see to the fire-cocks in the Inner Ward.

The Yeoman Quartermaster is responsible for the general cleanliness of the Tower, and has charge of the gardens and trees. Each Yeoman in turn fills the post of Warder of the Watch, who is on duty from nine o'clock at night till ten the next morning; and, after the wickets are locked, no one can get in or out of the Tower without his knowledge. On

Sundays there is one Warder on duty, wearing his full-dress scarlet uniform, from nine in the morning till nine at night, and he is relieved every hour.

SALUTING THE KEYS.

The following is the official order relating to the ceremony of "Saluting the Queen's Keys," which is still carried out every night:—

"When the Tower gates are locked, at eleven o'clock p.m., by the Yeoman Porter or Warder appointed, the following ceremony takes place at the Main Guard :

"Five minutes before the hour of locking the gates the Yeoman Porter applies to the serjeant of the guard for the escort for the Queen's Keys. The serjeant acquaints the officer that the escort is called for, who furnishes a serjeant and six men for this duty, at the same time placing his guard under arms.

"When the Keys return, the sentry at the guard-room challenges, 'Halt! Who comes there?' The Yeoman Porter answers, 'The Keys.' The sentry calls, 'Whose Keys?' And the answer being given, 'Queen Victoria's Keys':—

"The Yeoman Porter places himself, with the escort, in front of and facing the guard, and then the officer of the guard gives the word, 'Present arms!' in which the escort joins. The Yeoman Porter then says, in an audible voice—

'God preserve Queen Victoria!'

and the whole guard answer, 'Amen.' The keys are then carried by the Yeoman Porter to the Queen's House.

"A similar escort is called for by the Yeoman Porter when the gates are opened in the morning, but no ceremony takes place at that time, nor does the guard turn out."

It may be remarked that when the guard is furnished by the Brigade of Guards, neither the guard nor its sentries

“ present ” arms to the Major of the Tower, if he is under the rank of a general officer, but only “ shoulder ” arms.

CONSTITUTION OF THE CORPS.

By comparing the Warrant of Appointment of a Tower Warder, here given, with the Certificate of a Yeoman of the Guard in Ordinary (printed on a previous page), the difference in the constitution of the two Corps will be seen. The Warders are, as before stated, appointed by the Constable of the Tower. They have no Commissioned Officers attached to the Corps, but are under the immediate command of the Major of the Tower. Their whole time is occupied in and about the Tower, and most of them sleep within its walls. Moreover, they are all of them sworn in as special constables, and act as such when on duty. There is a Tower-police constable's staff in the ticket-office at the entrance gates, which can be produced whenever the Warder's authority is disputed. Their services as clerks, messengers, or orderlies, are always at the disposal of the authorities of the Tower, and such of the Warders as are not quartered in the Tower must reside in London.

The Warrant is written on parchment, and reads as follows :—

WARRANT OF APPOINTMENT OF A TOWER WARDER.



"Field Marshal Sir John Fox Burgoyne, Baronet,
G.C.B., &c., &c., Constable of Her Majesty's
Tower of London, &c.

"To [Name of Warder].

"BY VIRTUE of the power and authority given unto me by Her Majesty I do hereby ordain, constitute, and appoint you the said [Name of Warder] to be one of the Yeomen Waiters or Warders of the said Tower, you behaving yourself as becometh a loyal and faithful subject to Her Majesty, her heirs and lawful successors, according to the trust reposed in you. TO WHICH end and purpose I do hereby signify and declare that you the said [Name of Warder] have taken the usual and accustomed oath of a Yeoman Warder. You are to receive the wages and fees incident to the office or place of a Yeoman Warder, and to enjoy all other duties, profits, emoluments, and commodities, together with all ancient privileges to the same belonging or in any-wise appertaining. AMONG divers others you are superseded from arrest, you may not be restrained of your liberty or be detained prisoner without leave being first had and obtained from me. You are likewise exempted from bearing any parish office, Churchwarden, Collector, Constable, Scavenger, or the like, neither are you chargeable with any kind of taxes or payments, except in Court only as other Her Majesty's servants are; you are not to be empannelled on Juries, or give your attendance at Assize or Session, neither are you to watch or ward or pay for doing those duties, with divers other privileges not herein particularly mentioned, which as Her Majesty's servant you may justly pretend to enjoy. WHICH said place of Yeoman Waiter or Warder of the Tower, together with all profits, commodities, emoluments, and privileges above specified and thereunto belonging, you are to hold, possess, and enjoy for and during

the Royal Will and Pleasure of Our Sovereign Lady the Queen. And I do hereby require all those persons whom these presents shall or may concern that they take notice hereof and commit no act or thing whatsoever that may in anywise infringe or violate the privileges of you the said [Name of Warder] as they tender Her Majesty service and will answer the contrary at their peril.

“GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Tower this [] day of [] in the [] Year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, and in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and []

“Signed, J. F. BURGOYNE.

“By command of the Constable,

[Signed] []

Colonel and Major of the Tower.”

L.S.



THE TOWER SEAL IN BORDER.

NOMINAL ROLL

OF THE

Deomen Warders of the Tower of London.

No.	Names.	When appointed.	Rank and Regiment when discharged.	No.
1	James Porter	27th August, 1853	Quartermaster-Serjeant 12th Regiment of Foot	1
2	George Godfrey	2nd October, 1855	Colour-Serjeant 9th Regiment of Foot	2
3	Henry Hughes *	9th January, 1856	Garrison Serjeant-Major, Cavalry Dépôt, Maidstone	3
4	Michael Conlan	23rd January, 1856	Garrison Serjeant-Major at Chatham	4
5	Robert Southgate	5th November, 1856	Serjeant-Major 77th Regiment	5
6	Robert Sheppard	13th May, 1857	Colour-Serjeant 1st Battalion Scots Guards	6
7	William Macstea	8th July, 1857	Corporal of Horse, 1st Regiment of Life Guards	7
8	William Ray	17th July, 1857	Troop Corporal-Major Royal Horse Guards	8
9	Thomas Bunyan †	3rd December, 1859	Serjeant-Major 79th Cameron Highlanders	9
10	John Dwane	4th August, 1860	Quartermaster-Serjeant 1st Battalion 60th Royal Rifles	10
11	John Fallis	10th October, 1860	Serjeant 32nd Regiment	11
12	Charles Champion	17th October, 1860	Troop Corporal-Major 1st Regiment Life Guards	12
13	James Bennett	8th November, 1862	Colour-Serjeant 55th Regiment	13
14	Stephen Sweeney	4th January, 1864	Troop Serjeant-Major 20th Regiment of Hussars	14
15	Henry Hanson	25th February, 1865	Quartermaster-Serjeant 53rd Regiment	15
16	Henry Baker	9th February, 1866	Serjeant-Major 61st Regiment	16
17	John Rowe	20th August, 1866	Farrier-Major 4th Regiment of Hussars	17
18	John Powley	11th November, 1868	Serjeant-Major 1st Battalion King's Royal Rifles	18
19	John Switzer	12th January, 1869	Troop Serjeant-Major 5th Regiment Dragoon Guards	19

20	Joseph Hall	17th March,	1871	Serjeant 49th Regiment	20
21	Edward Watson	20th April,	1873	Troop Serjeant-Major 7th Regiment Dragoon Guards	21
22	John Farrow	4th May,	1873	Farrier-Major 14th Regiment of Hussars	22
23	Patrick Penrose	21st October,	1873	Garrison Serjeant-Major at the Curragh Camp	23
24	James MacDowell	8th March,	1875	Armourer-Serjeant 53rd Regiment	24
25	William Fidge	1st October,	1875	Troop Serjeant-Major 3rd Regiment of Hussars	25
26	Henry Marrie	5th July,	1877	Serjeant-Major 98th Regiment	26
27	Robert Smith	25th December,	1877	Troop Serjeant-Major 5th Regiment of Lancers	27
28	Kester Knight	14th July,	1878	Serjeant-Major Royal Engineers	28
29	William Ewings	26th October,	1879	Serjeant-Major 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards	29
30	Matthew Leslie	4th March,	1880	Serjeant-Major 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade	30
31	William Kett	20th June,	1880	Quartermaster-Serjeant 5th Regiment of Fusiliers	31
32	John Hall	30th September,	1880	Troop Serjeant-Major Royal Scots Greys	32
33	Charles Parker	12th October,	1880	Troop Serjeant-Major 17th Regiment of Lancers	33
34	John Power	6th January,	1881	Quartermaster-Serjeant at the Curragh Camp	34
35	William Bishop	3rd March,	1882	Colour-Serjeant 37th Regiment	35
36	Thomas Blamiers	12th April,	1882	Armourer-Serjeant 13th Regiment of Hussars	36
37	Charles Mills	4th October,	1882	Battery Serjeant-Major Royal Artillery	37
38	Robert Mahoney	14th September,	1884	Serjeant in the Army Hospital Corps	38
39	John Allen	14th April,	1885	Drum-Major 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards	39
40	Alfred Brookson	21st August,	1885	Battery Serjeant-Major Royal Artillery	40

* Yeoman Gaoler.

† Yeoman Porter.

A true copy,

G. B. MILMAN, Lt.-Genl.

30th October, 1885.

Major of the Tower.

It will be seen from the above copy of the official Nominal Roll (kindly supplied by the Tower Major) that all the Yeomen Warders have been Warrant or Non-Commissioned Officers, and this has been the rule since 1827, when the Duke of Wellington ordered that no more civilians should be sworn in. Previously the appointments had been purchaseable, the Constable's fee on the admission of a Warder being £240.

SERJEANT-MAJOR WEATHERHEAD.

There is a biographical story connected with the Warders which is worth recording here. When the late Emperor Nicholas of Russia visited England in 1844 Serjeant-Major John Weatherhead, formerly of the 47th Regiment, was, at the Emperor's solicitation, made a Warder of the Tower. He subsequently became Chief Warder at Newgate Prison, and then by successive promotions became Governor of Holloway Prison. He received his pension as a Yeoman Warder till his death five years ago, and was always proud of his connection with the Tower Warders.

THE UNIFORM OF THE TOWER WARDERS.

The great interest taken by the public generally in all that appertains to the Yeomen of the Guard and to the Tower Warders is amply demonstrated by the following newspaper correspondence and articles, selected from many others, which appeared on or about the 14th August, 1885, when it had been announced (erroneously as will be seen) that the famous old Beefeater uniform had been condemned, and was to be replaced by "an ugly monstrosity." As a matter of fact neither the Beefeater hat nor any part of the full-dress uniform had been in any way interfered with. All that was done by Lord Lathom was to add a cloth hat

appropriately trimmed, to be worn by the *Tower Warders* with their dark blue *undress* uniform, which is the same pattern as the uniform they have worn since 1858. The cloth hat matches the undress uniform much better than does the old full-dress velvet one, and is moreover more useful, less expensive, and more comfortable to wear.

Any one who has seen the "scarecrow" which was sent round to the newspapers by the enterprising hatter who made the new cloth hat will not be surprised at the wrath of the newspaper editors and correspondents.

Regarding the following extracts it is to be observed that there are some slight errors both in the leading articles and the letters which a perusal of this history will rectify. The letter of "An Antiquary" is full of little blunders. For example, the statement that every Beefeater used to wear a silver badge on his arm bearing in relief the arms of the Ordnance must be wrong. The Yeomen of the Guard never wore such a badge, certainly not one "with the arms of the Ordnance thereon." They never wore plum-coloured hose and breeches, unless the "plum colour" was scarlet. They never wore "black velvet caps," and the undress belt and buckle never have confined and were never intended to "confine the *red* tunic." The letter signed "A Partizan" was written by the author of this history.

A LAMENT FOR THE BEEFEATERS.

(From *The Daily Telegraph*, 14th August, 1885.)

SIR,—A firm of naval and military tailors having "invented," to their own satisfaction, with the aid of the Lord Chamberlain's Office, the present uniform of the Tower Yeomen of the Guard, have been so kind as to send me a curious photograph, representing, as I at first thought, a convict in some new prison garb, designed to mark turpitude of a peculiarly atrocious dye. With the help of an explana-

tory letter accompanying this frightful object, I have come to the conclusion that the likeness is that of somebody condemned, not to penal servitude, but to a punishment hardly less severe—the doleful obligation of dressing in the most hideous fashion ever devised by the joint efforts of officials and clothiers. “We have the pleasure,” say my obliging correspondents, “to enclose you a photo of the new-pattern hat to be worn by the Beefeaters.” I infer that the rest of the costume, shown down to the belt—such a belt!—is therefore a foregone conclusion; and that the pattern-hat, which is specially attributed to the Lord Chamberlain’s Office, alone is on its trial. I am sorry for it; and wish there were some shred of doubt, some ghost of a forlorn hope, to the contrary. Alas! the fact is too plainly accomplished; the deed is done; the doom of the Beefeaters is irrevocable. At the top of the naval and military tailors’ letter appears an engraving of the Royal Arms, with the figure of a Beefeater in the garb of 1509 on one side, and another figure, a fireman’s dummy, with a mild dash of Tom Tug, and a stronger infusion of the Shoeblack Brigade, supposed to represent a Tower Yeoman of the Guard, improved down to 1858, on the opposite side, as supporters, supplementary to the lion and the unicorn. The photograph carries the change to a still lower period. Chiefly novel is the hideous belt, with its correspondingly monstrous buckle, broad enough to hide the lower extremities of the initials, “V. R.” But the red collar, which replaces the starched linen ruff, and which comes, “without any mitigation or remorse,” close to the throat, is the direst disfigurement of all.

I beg, Sir, that you will protest against these needless, senseless, tasteless changes. If distinction of garb be deemed unnecessary, do away with it, or substitute a livery of the present day; but the alteration of a quaint historic uniform to something which is neither old nor new, neither

picturesque nor utilitarian, but an incongruous mixture of modes and periods—a blundering anachronism—calls for severe reprobation as an offence to sight, a positive and veritable eyesore. Instead of leaving such questions of official dress to contracting tailors, it would be far wiser to consult some artist of distinction and approved judgment. Sir John Millais, who painted some few years ago that rich and harmonious piece of colouring which embodied a typical Beefeater, should be asked whether he would, on any terms, consent to paint such a scarecrow as I now see before me, with its penitentiary-tunic and its pattern-hat. Such a being as this photograph portrays could not be a Beefeater. At the nearest he might be an occasional taster of horse-flesh, or of canned kangaroo. Beef, indeed! say, rather, bacon of inferior quality, or dubious German sausage.

I am old enough to have seen the Beefeater in his lusty pride of accurate habiliments, such as his earliest predecessor wore when Holbein was king of painters and Henry VIII. was King of England. The ancient retainers' degradation, in later time, has been noted by me with extreme sadness. There may be some shadow of reason, I have thought, for discarding an artistic dress in an inartistic age, but there cannot possibly be an excuse for spoiling that which we have not the courage to cast away. One of the first acts of ignorant alteration was the dismissal of the plum-coloured stockings and broad, duck-billed shoe, with its appropriate rosette, and the substitution of the incongruous modern trouser. It has been supposed that this garment was originally designed to conceal a shrunk shank; and possibly the race of Beefeaters had dwindled in respect of calves. In that case, the "kindly trouserian veil," as Leigh Hunt, paraphrasing Dyer, of "The Fleece," somewhere said, might have been half defended. But the reformation once begun should not have ended in the middle. Or, admitting the æsthetic justification of "pants," they

should have been pattern pants, to suit, by anticipation, the pattern hat.

Seriously, I say there ought to be no hesitation in condemning, if not too late, this most ridiculous, most contemptible, garb—belt, buckle, frightful collar, Lord Chamberlain's hat, and all. It is an affront, an absolute outrage, to public taste—a fit subject of public protest or derision. To let it pass unchallenged would be a disgrace to London, nay, to all England. The old Tudor dress, comely and characteristic to behold, may be—though it is not very easy to say why—unsuitable to the age. Pageantry may have followed chivalry into the past. Grant this for a truth, happy or trivial, if you please. But if we are to abolish a sightly and harmonious costume, in the name of such elementary art as even the Board Schools essay to teach, do not let us substitute a mongrel attire, which retains most that is obsolete and rejects all that is becoming.—I am, Sir, &c.,

DAMASK HOSE.

August 13, 1885.

(From *The Daily Telegraph*.)

Profane playwrights have been known to remark that they should not object to the Lord Chamberlain's authority over the theatre if his lordship would confine himself to regulating the skirts of the ballet. It would, however, appear that even in sartorial matters the great Court official—whose business it is on high State occasions to walk backwards before the Sovereign with a long wand in his hand—may come to grief. From the Lord Chamberlain's Office the fiat has gone forth that the ancient and quaint headdress of the Tower Yeomen of the Guard, otherwise the Beef-eaters, shall be altered; and an inspection of the new-pattern hat would force observers to say that the alteration is not an improvement. Everybody knows all about the

Beefeaters of the Tower, and how they are not beefeaters at all, but beaufetiers or buffetiers, Royal servants who waited at the buffet when monarchy condescended to breakfast, dine, or sup within the palace-walls. Their dress dates back to the reign of King Henry VII.; their coat is the tabard, their hat the head-covering of the time. When William Shakespeare, who lodged at Blackfriars, used to go for a row on Edmund Spenser's "silver-streaming Thames" as far as Baynard's Castle, and caught sight of the beaufetiers lolling on the Tower wall west of Traitors' Gate, haply smoking pipes of tobacco recommended to them by the distinguished Tower prisoner Sir Walter Raleigh, the Yeomen of the Guard wore trunk-hose. And those handsomely-appointed fellows continued to show their shapely legs in one kind of knee-breeches or another until the year 1858, when they took to trousers. Who put the Beefeaters into trousers is not known, nor why their breeches and stockings were taken from them. Thereafter the costume of the Yeomen of the Guard became a sartorial anomaly, a Victorian—or rather Hanoverian—superstructure, surmounted by a Tudor cupola. Something was taken away, yet much was spared; and it is probable that only a very few, and those few very observant, sightseers ever remarked on the incongruity. The comely, low-crowned, broad-brimmed, black velvet hat, gathered in from the crown to the rim, and set off with plentiful coloured ribbons, the scarlet surcoat slashed with bullion and blazoned with the Royal Arms, took the general eye, and kept it riveted in admiration. For twenty-seven years the trousers have enveloped the boufetierial legs, but for the most part have escaped observation. And now at length, after three hundred and fifty times twelve moons, the unsparing hand of a pretended reform has seized upon the Beefeater's hat, narrowed its brim and raised its crown, torn away its coloured ribbons, and substituted a plain band surmounted

by a rosette in front, more or less like a groom's cockade. This is not conduct such as the world had a right to expect at the hands of a Conservative Lord Chamberlain conspiring with an East-end tailor. It is possible to realise a preternaturally Radical City solicitor refusing to do suit and service in the new Law Courts for manors the very names of which have been forgotten ; or for declining, on behalf of his Worship the Lord Mayor, to count horse-shoes and ten-penny nails in token that the School Board had not altogether neglected the mayoral education. But what offence could the Beefeater's hat have committed ? What wrong or ridiculous time-worn custom does it represent that the Lord Chamberlain could not suffer it to rest in its ancient shape upon the buffetierial cranium ? It is hard, even upon a hat, after serving three dynasties, to be cast off like a common worn-out castor.

Think of all that the hat has gone through since first it shone by the Royal sideboard, and how it was doffed to the six respective and separate wives of Bluff King Hal, who wore a hat just like it, as we see in Holbein's portrait ; and how it helped to fill the flagon in which the King pledged His Majesty Francis I. of France at dinner on the day of the Field of the Cloth of Gold ! Lord Henry Howard, who introduced the sonnet from Italy before Shakespeare began to write, may have sketched it upon his tables. Sir Philip Sidney was necessarily quite familiar with its form ; and both Sir Thomas More and Archbishop Cranmer did not disdain to appear at Court and in church carrying wonderfully similar headgear. Who shall say that when Burleigh showed his wisdom by shaking his head, some imitative varlet at the end of the Queen's banqueting-chamber may not have mocked the Minister behind his back, wearing just such a chapeau ? When "rare Ben Jonson," driven from Court through his quarrel with Inigo Jones, sulked on the second floor of the comb-maker's shop over against Temple

Bar—poor, neglected, solitary—how often may the bibulous poet not have sighed for the fleshpots of Whitehall guarded by his erst servitors of the buffet! One may almost put it forward as an historical fact that the Protector Cromwell, who caused “that bauble,” the mace, to be removed from the table of the House of Commons, would not tolerate the scarlet tabard and coloured ribbon of the Yeomen of the Guard, but replaced them with the buff jerkins and steel caps of his fighting, sour-faced Ironsides. Yet on that memorable 29th of May, when the King “enjoyed his own again,” and the conduits ran wine, and oxen were roasted whole in the Strand, be sure the bouffetiers stood once more on guard by the Boar’s Head and the Sir Loin of Beef. That very hat which the Lord Chamberlain would mercilessly lay iconoclastic hands excited the surprise and delight of Old Parr when he came up to town at the special invitation of the Merry Monarch; and the only reason why Sir Peter Lely did not paint it is because, judging from the portraits of the period, the Court limner was not wont to depict the things he saw. Remember what the hat of the Beefeater has survived in the way of other articles of the kind. It has outlived every fashion but one—the cocked hat, from the gold-laced three-cornered King William, through all the variety of shapes described and descanted on by Mr. Spectator, to that of the Queen’s State coachman. The last hat of the last Mohock was battered into shapelessness in a long-forgotten brawl. The hat of the Maccaroni has gone out as surely as the lights at Ranelagh or the masquerades in Soho. Indeed, very few of the hats of the past survive to the present. People of propriety wear to-day a modified form of the curly-brimmed abomination of the “First Gentleman in Europe.” But the hat of hats, that which escaped the dangers of the Cromwelliate and the adventures of the Revolution, even now is passing away at a tailor’s suggestion and an official’s caprice.

It seems wonderful that the Lord Chamberlain is not afraid thus ruthlessly to cut one of the few remaining links binding the present to the past. The world is not so overloaded with the picturesque that we can spare the Beefeater's hat—at least not without a monody. Does Lord Lathom sleep well “of nights”? Who knows what may not happen to the Chamberlain after he is in bed and asleep, lying on the broad of his back with his face turned up to the ceiling? All the Court hats since the Conquest—on the top of canes and bâtons, glaives and halberts, lances and quarter-staves, black rods and silver sticks very much in waiting—may dance a dreadful saraband upon the chamberlainish counterpane, with nods and becks and frightful frowns, reproaching him on behalf of the Beefeater's hat. Then may enter from beneath the door, and troop down the chimney, bands of tiny but obese old gentlemen, well-to-do, but not at home in Court dress, and with their swords getting between their legs and tripping them up as they clamber on to the bed; and the tiny, obese old gentlemen may point to their silk stockings, and say, “Why not these instead?” and so, uttering deep sighs, retire awkwardly by the keyhole. If, in very truth, the Beefeater's hat has to go by the board, will any sartorial State or sacerdotal official garment, appendage or appurtenance, be safe? By the way, Mr. Speaker wears a three-cornered cocked hat, and there is a special place in that elaborate architectural structure called “the Chair” made for it to rest in. Likewise the Serjeant-at-Arms and his Deputy both carry dress hats under their arms; but human eye never beheld the Serjeant-at-Arms with his hat upon his head. In course of time all three must depart, and doubtless all three would share the fate of the disconsolate Beefeater if Lord Lathom had his way. His lordship seems like the fell spirit in the Laureate's poem, exclaiming, “I care for nothing; all shall go.” But, if we must bury every picturesque costume of the past, let

it not be done piecemeal. A Judge upon the bench, in judicial scarlet trimmed with ermine, and wearing the full-bottomed wig of the High Court of Justice, ought to have a hat to match. A Thames boating-hat, with a bit of blue ribbon round it, would not look well in combination with the rest of the dignified and time-honoured trappings, as old and original as the Beefeater's hat itself. A well-regulated fancy would, moreover, refuse to picture a knight of any of the great orders of chivalry accoutred in appropriate mantle and collar, yet wearing a cylinder silk hat. And shall a solid Beefeater be asked to realise in the flesh what the unsubstantial fancy would not deign to imagine? Possibly the Lord Chamberlain, vexed and harassed with the manifold worries of an office which include supervision of adapted dramas, and care for the colour and shape of the slippers of fair *débutantes*, may not have approached the matter in this light. It may have been represented to him that after three hundred and fifty years of the same pattern of hat the Beefeaters would be glad of a change; and he, like the lost lady in the poem, "whispering he would ne'er consent, consented." But as he is a Lord Chamberlain and a Conservative let him hold his hand. If the Beefeater's hat be suffered to fall off into the devouring maw of Time, nothing of the kind will be sacred hereafter. Doggett's coat and badge, the beadle's staff, the verger's cassock, and the bag-wigs of the Lord Mayor's running footmen, will all vanish into space, and "leave not a rack behind." A grave responsibility rests upon Lord Lathom. It lies with him to restore the ancient and picturesque hat of the Henries to the bereaved and disconsolate head of the Beefeaters, or he may obstinately stand by the novel and incongruous chapeau chosen, it is to be hoped, in a moment of unaccustomed weakness. On the one hand we behold the Genii of Archæology and Æstheticism embracing the time-honoured Beefeater's hat; and, on the

other hand, a wavering Lord Chamberlain balancing the "new departure" on the top of his wand. If it be not too late, let us hope that even now good sense and good taste may prevail.

"A LAMENT FOR THE BEEFEATERS."

(From *The Daily Telegraph*, 18th August, 1885.)

Among the many correspondents who have addressed us on the subject of the tasteless tailoring to which the Tower Yeomen of the Guard have been subjected, "An Antiquary" merits foremost attention, as, beneath that signature, is moderately veiled the name of a leading authority in various matters of archaic art. Agreeing with "Damask Hose" that the substitution of a mongrel and unmeaning dress for the picturesque costume of the fifteenth century is a matter which concerns all persons who have the least respect for archæology, he expresses a decided opinion that the Lord Chamberlain, by his want of taste, holds himself up to ridicule. "An Antiquary" proceeds to say:—

"I may call your attention to a fact unnoticed by your correspondent—the removal of the silver badge worn upon the left arm of every Beefeater. When the Right Hon. Robert Lowe was Chancellor of the Exchequer, he, from motives of economy, and intent upon abolishing unnecessary expenditure, cast his keen eye and beetling brow upon this cognisance, worn in his pride of office by the Yeoman of the Guard. The bauble was ruthlessly seized and sold for its intrinsic value. It bore in relief the arms of the Ordnance (three mounted cannons) in a handsome scroll border of oval form, ten inches by eight. The purchaser—a silversmith—having about twenty of these silver medallions, conceived the idea, in preference to melting them down into ingots, of

converting them into articles of general use ; so, by adding silver branches with nozzels for candles, on the lower parts of the badges, he transformed them into very handsome sconces to hang upon the walls of dining-room or library : the ancient hall-mark proving incontestably the genuineness and antiquity of these cleverly-adapted articles, and thus raising the price per ounce from shillings into pounds. This was but a prelude to converting the old Tudor costume *pas à pas* from the plum-coloured hose and breeches with the broad-toed shoes and rosettes into the modern trouser and highlows. The present Lord Chamberlain now proposes to change the black velvet cap and ribbons for a hat, a red cloth collar in lieu of the linen ruff, and a hideous belt with a monstrous buckle confining the red tunic—a dress which your correspondent likens to the costume of the Shoeblack Brigade.”

“A Partisan ” writes from Whitehall as follows :—

“Referring to the interesting letter and leading article in *The Daily Telegraph* on the subject of the Tower Warders, may I venture to remind you that they are not the Beefeaters of history ? They are a Corps quite distinct from ‘The Yeomen in Ordinary of Her Majesty’s Guard of her Body.’ This latter is the Corps which has attended and added such picturesqueness to all the regal ceremonials for the last 400 years. It was one of them—the late Sergeant John Charles Montague—whom Millais painted as a typical Beef-eater, and not one of the Tower Warders. As the Corps was formed by Henry VII. to take part in his coronation on October 30, 1485, I should not be surprised to see some public celebration of the interesting occasion, especially as every man now in the Corps of the Yeomen of the Guard at St. James’s Palace was a non-commissioned officer who had distinguished himself in the service of his country.”

(From *The Standard*, 14th August, 1885.)

Lovers of the picturesque, and worshippers of long-established traditions, will regret to hear that the Beefeaters of the Tower are to be deprived of their gorgeous costume. One would have thought that the fact of a Conservative Government being in office would have saved the famous Yeomen of the Guard from this indignity, and secure for admiring thousands a spectacle in which they have long delighted. We cannot believe that the decree is really to be carried into effect. If a protecting hand cannot be flung over our Beefeaters and their trimmings, people will soon begin to ask what is the good of a Conservative Government at all. Surely a prescription of four hundred years ought to suffice to ward off the strokes of the iconoclast. The Beefeaters carry back their traditions to the days of Henry the Seventh, and have ever since formed a conspicuous portion of the train of Royalty. Indeed, it is to the year 1485 that their foundation is ascribed, so that there is something peculiarly wounding to our feelings in the date chosen for stripping them of their picturesque drapery. This is an age of centenaries, and it is almost enough that it is a hundred, two hundred, or three hundred years since a man lived, to exalt him into a hero, and have a statue raised in his honour. This is the four hundredth anniversary of the royal decree that called the "Buffetiers" into existence. Thus there is a peculiar cruelty in the choice of the year for their extinction, or, at least, for the extinction of what is most precious in them. In the year 1848 some slight modification was introduced into their costume. But the alteration was made with diffidence, and bespoke a modest reverence for a dress sanctioned by the smiles of generations of sight-seers. In these days, however, change must be wholesale and sensational or it produces no effect. It is in keeping with the epoch that no half measures should be taken with the

gorgeous habiliments of the Beefeaters. Drastic treatment alone satisfies the destructive temper of the age of progress. And when the spirit of change is, so to speak, in the air, it is impossible to say what persons, what institutions, what costumes, will escape its all-devouring zeal. Change for change sake is in some eyes sufficient justification. Yet, to speak seriously, it does seem a pity that the few external traces that have been left to us of the ways and habits of our ancestors should be gratuitously obliterated in obedience to the prevailing fashion for obliteration. The origin of the dress of the Beefeaters carries us back to a hundred years before Shakespeare had reached the maturity of his genius, to the days of the Tudor kings, and long before the Reformation was thought of. There is a sanctity in things old, when they are old enough, that the most presumptuous age ought to feel and reverence. An old fresco people will go hundreds of miles to see, simply because it is old. Why should not old customs and old costumes equally arouse our curiosity and respect? The living, walking picture is surely as good as the dead and silent one. If the Tower itself is regarded with the eyes of veneration, why should the Beefeaters of the Tower be contemplated with ridicule or indifference? That a picturesque costume is a thing not unworthy of the attention of the loftiest minds may be seen in the fact that the costume of the Pope's Bodyguard, which, in combination of colours, somewhat resembles that of the Beefeaters, was designed by no less a person than Michael Angelo. History has not preserved the name of the artist who devised the dress of Henry the Seventh's Yeomen of the Guard. Had it done so, perhaps the Beefeaters of the Tower would have survived the uneasy destructiveness of the present century. Nor is it easy to see why, if a garb so venerable is to disappear, anything distinctively ancient should be retained. If we had all pledged ourselves once and for all to be simple citizens, to forswear silk and taffeta,

and wear plain broadcloth, then we could understand that the past should not be allowed to bequeath what the present had a distaste for. But love of splendour is one of the marks of this age; and, if men do not apparel themselves gorgeously, they surround themselves with everything that can minister to a passion for the picturesque. Perhaps the destructive instincts of the age spring from a sort of unconscious jealousy. It wants to destroy all traces of former generations, in order that it may depreciate and vituperate them with more severity. If this be not the motive, what is it? However, there seems to be no resisting the abolishing temper of the times. The pace that proceeds towards an ugly and uninteresting uniformity perpetually mends. We destroy the Beefeaters, and we bequeath to posterity powdered footmen, policemen, and the Blue Ribbon Army.

“THE BEEFEATERS.”

(From *The Standard*, 17th August, 1885.)

TO THE EDITOR OF “THE STANDARD.”

Sir,—Your plea for the retention of the quaint and time-honoured garb worn by the Beefeaters of the Tower will, I am sure, be re-echoed by every lover of the picturesque. We have not so much colour in our modern life that we can afford to lose this survival.

May I further be permitted to claim for these portly Wardens of our City Fortress that their name is thoroughly English, and that they have never suffered the indignity of answering to a French nomenclature? You say that they were called into existence as *buffetiers*, and you can certainly appeal in support of this view to such well-known authorities as Professor Max Müller and Archbishop Trench. I investigated this derivation some time ago, and came to the conclusion—it is also the conclusion of Professor Skeat—

that there is not a particle of truth in it. There is no evidence whatever that these Yeomen of the Guard were ever called *buffetiers*; nor, indeed, does that word seem to be found in French. On the contrary, Baron Bielfield, in 1741, says they were popularly known as "Roast-beef *ou* Beef-eaters, *c'est-à-dire Mangeurs de Bœuf*" (*Lettres*, i. 29). "Beef-eaters" is the name under which they appear in Horace Walpole ("Letters," i. 176, 1742), Lady Cowper (Diary, p. 90, 1716), the *Spectator* (No. 625, 1714), and in a letter of Prince Rupert, 1645. Andrew Marvell, in 1667, speaks of "Old Fitz Harding of the 'eaters beef,'" and in a confession of one Mather, given in Froude's History, they are referred to as "The Queen's Beefs."

That these burly Yeomen were regarded as worthy exponents of the excellence of John Bull's national dish appears from the passages following. As a matter of fact, a large daily allowance of beef was granted for their table (Sir S. D. Scott, "The British Army," i. 517):—

— "Chines of Beef innumerable send me,
Or from the stomach of the Guard defend me."
Cowley, *The Wish*.

"Beefe that the queasie stomach'd Guard would please."
Sir W. Davenant, *Works*, p. 237, 1673.

"Those goodly Juments of the Guard would fight—
(As they eat beef) after six stone a day."
Cartwright, *The Ordinary*, ii. 1, 1651.

Finally, that serving-men or dependents were formerly called "Beefeaters" is shown by the old play, "*Histrion-Martix*" 1610 (iii. 1). We may hold it as certain, therefore, that our Beefeaters, strange as it may seem to too learned readers, are nothing more nor less than "Eaters of Beef."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. SMYTHE PALMER (Clk.)

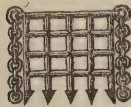
Woodford, Essex, August 15.

(From *The Manchester Guardian*, 18th August, 1885.)

A Conservative Government has come into office and into power, and the picturesque Beefeaters are to be abolished. The mournful announcement that the Yeomen of the Guard are to be disrobed comes after the rising of Parliament, or we might expect that Sir John Lubbock would intervene to guard the nation from the destruction with which one of its ancient monuments is now threatened. There were few objects in London more picturesque than the Beefeaters of the Tower, and it will be difficult indeed to think of what Pope calls the "Towers of Julius" apart from the stalwart men whose predecessors during four centuries have been objects of awe and wonder to the popular mind. There is something cruel in the time that has been chosen for the abolition, for it is generally reckoned that the Yeomen of the Guard were formed into a corps in the year 1485, just four centuries ago. This was in the days of Henry VII., and the costume of the Beefeaters, although it was slightly modified in 1858, is really that of the early Tudor period. They were the bodyguard of the Sovereign, who attended him at banquets and upon other State occasions. The name by which they are popularly known has led to some controversy. It is said to be derived from the French *beaufetier* or *buffetier*, meaning one who attended to the sideboard, as on the occasion of State banquets. Englishmen, trying to make sense of the unknown term, easily converted it into *beefeater*. This is not a more remarkable change than that which turned "Chateau Vert" into "Shotover." But Professor Skeat, who is an excellent authority, points out that Ben Jonson uses the word "eater" in the sense of servant, and is inclined to think the word of purely English derivation. If we might give a hint to antiquaries, we would ask them why the word should not mean exactly what it says. The Yeomen of the Guard—for that is their official designa-

tion—consist of a hundred old soldiers, who are officered by a Captain—usually a nobleman—a Lieutenant, and an Ensign, together with a Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant. Admission into the Corps is highly prized by the old soldiers, and the medals worn by many of the Beefeaters are sufficient to show that they have passed through stubborn battlefields and deserved well of their country. It is difficult to see what possible good can come of the proposed change, which seems to be dictated by a wanton spirit of vandalism. Why should we break the tradition preserved by this band of veterans?—a tradition coming from pre-Reformation days, and which has survived the storm and stress of Civil War and Revolution. It is enough to make the Cecil of Elizabeth's days turn in his grave when the Cecil of Victoria's days abolishes the time-honoured and picturesque garb of the Sovereign's bodyguard.

I have not given the remarks of *Punch* and other comic journals on the subject, as they are merely metrical versions of the preceding articles and letters.



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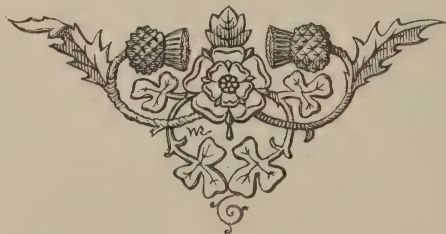
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WESTMINSTER :
PRINTED BY NICHOLS AND SONS,
25, PARLIAMENT STREET.

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